

Hafa Adai!

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75¢

Li's father, wife arrive from China

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The 65-year-old father and wife of missing Saipan Fresh Market owner Zhi Yuan Li arrived on Saipan yesterday from China.

Li's two brothers picked up their father and Li's wife at 4am yesterday at the Saipan International Airport.

One brother, who owns Vegetable Plus, told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that they really don't know what happened to their 43-year-old brother Li.

The brother, who requested anonymity, said somebody called Li's cell-phone on Saturday at about 1:42pm.

See FATHER on Page 4

TOURISM SUMMIT

William S. Reyes Elementary School students join 343 other public school students at the 2015 Marianas Tourism Education Council Summit at the Saipan World Resort yesterday. Students learned about being hospitable citizens for both visiting tourists and their home environment, and envisioned the key roles they might play in the tourism industry in the future.

DENNIS B. CHAN

See story on Page 4



MAHAL wants audience with IRS on FICA

By **MARK RABAGO**
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Marianas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs, Ltd. founder and president Rene Reyes wants an audience with the Internal Revenue Service regarding the reimplementing of Social Security and Medicare taxes on Filipino non-resident workers.

"MAHAL is calling for an immediate review and action by our leaders here in the CNMI to halt the implementation of FICA deductions on Filipino CW workers. The organization is also

asking to have an audience with the IRS," said Reyes.

Filipino CNMI-only workers, or CW workers, started paying Social Security and Medicare taxes under the Federal Insurance Contribution Act or FICA last Jan. 1, 2015.

Filipino workers in the Commonwealth used to pay the FICA taxes from late 2011 to 2012 until IRS issued a decision not to assert these taxes. Filipino workers received refunds on the FICA taxes they paid.

The one-time exemption effectively

See MAHAL on Page 4

Man, 24, allegedly beat up, stabbed his mother

A 24-year-old man claimed that his mother got injured after she fell from bed but police later found that he actually allegedly stabbed her with a knife and beat her up at their residence in Kagman III early Wednesday morning.

Jaron Ronald was arrested for assault with a dangerous weapon, senior citizen physical abuse and/or mental cruelty, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

The victim sustained two lacerations on the right forehead and bruises

on the right eye and cheek, right arm and right hand. Her fingers were swollen and bruised, and her right leg was also bruised, police said.

The police report did not mention the victim's age.

At a hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo imposed a \$10,000 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for Jan. 28 at 9am.

Govendo appointed Chief Public Defender Douglas Hartig as counsel for Ronald.

Police detective Vincent A. Igisaiar stated in his report that the Department of Public Safety received a call about a stabbing incident at a residence along Banalu Street in Kagman III early Wednesday morning.

When a police officer arrived at the house, he met with Ronald, who stated that he arrived home at 12am and found his mother on the floor in the living room so he helped her get to bed.

The officer noticed that Ronald

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INSIDE



LOCAL

To celebrate its first anniversary 880 Duty Free will have a monthlong sale.

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ASIA

Macau ranks No. 1 in economic performance among major cities.

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LIFE & STYLE

Authorities unveil a record haul of rare antiquities illegally looted from Italy.

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GOT A NEWS TIP?
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Local

NMC explores financing options for campus reconstruction

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Northern Marianas College president Dr. Sharon Hart hopes to move forward with campus reconstruction, exploring facility-financing options through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development.

"With our college now in strong standing with our accreditation, it is time that we move forward and start addressing these major facilities chal-

lenges that we have, especially the need for new and improved classrooms and areas for student services," she told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview.

The college is primarily looking at options through USDA's Rural Development, she said, talking with officials based out of Guam and Hawaii recently.

The college met with USDA area director Joseph Diego Tuesday morning. They looked at USDA's "Rural Economic Development Loan," for example.

Hart highlighted the loan's "excellent interest rates" that are around 3.75 percent, according to her, and added that "there really is no base amount" for the loans.

But their availability would depend on ensuring in the long run that a repayment source is identified for these loans that usually max out at around 35 to 40 years, according to her.

She pointed to Guam where legislation was passed to support USDA funding "to help

guarantee that payment availability for the future."

NMC already meets the basic criteria for the loan, making them eligible to apply. But "the issue would be more of, 'Can we repay? Can we guarantee a source for our payment?'" according to Hart.

She said this is just one opportunity they could look at. They could also leverage a combination of sources, working with U.S. Department of Education, leveraging with Housing and

Urban Development, and other federal agencies.

"The important thing for us is coming up with a plan and sitting down with our local leaders—especially the governor and the Legislature—to really get into those discussions about the future campus of NMC."

She said improving the campus is "also about competition" for international students. "We not only draw students from the CNMI, we draw students from abroad."

She described the college facilities as "outdated," saying

that they "bursting at the seams in many areas," as classroom sizes for many of their classes are "not appropriate."

"It's not cost effective with an old campus like that. You are putting up so much money into repairs and remodeling all the time—that you are really better off looking at something more appropriate for the time."

The college has not undergone major reconstruction since it was built on or about 1955 as a single story, semi-concrete hospital.

See NMC on Page 4

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DPW: Tun Antonio Road excavation is CUC's responsibility

For weeks now, residents of Fina Sisu and students of Northern Marianas College have had to contend with an excavation right smack on a curve of Tun Antonio Apa Road.

Some residents have complained that the excavation has become a nuisance and could even lead to an accident since motorists going south have to use the other side of the road to avoid the rectangular hole that is already several inches deep.

Ariel Drilon, 47, of Fina Sisu said he always slows down when he reaches that point of the road because of the excavation. What puzzles him is after work was done on the road a few weeks back, the workers responsible for excavating it didn't return to fix it.

Menchu De Jesus, also of Fina Sisu, said the excavation has now become an obstacle and an eyesore. She said there were a lot of times she had to wait for oncoming traffic to drive by because the two-way street has effectively become one way.

Saipan Tribune contacted De-

partment of Public Works Secretary Martin Sablan regarding the issue and he said the excavation is the responsibility of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., whose staff worked on a water pipe in the area.

"I didn't know the road there is still dug up. We need to go back to CUC. I will send our highway inspector up there. I want him to take pictures and stuff and send it to CUC. They dug it up and they're responsible for putting it back to how it used to be."

Sablan said the maintenance of Tun Antonio Apa Road falls under DPW's purview and asked the public to alert his department if they have problems with their village roads.

"I'll contact CUC because it's their responsibility. They have put it back to its original configuration. If it's taking them too long, I'll tell them to hurry up," he assured.

Martin and DPW can be reached at 235-9570. (Mark Rabago)



A sedan uses the opposite lane to drive through a curve along the Tun Antonio Apa Road in Finasisu last Wednesday to avoid an excavation dug up reportedly by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

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‘Wonderful items’ at Installation Dinner silent auction

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce announced that it has received “the most wonderful donations” for its silent auction set for tomorrow night during its Installation Dinner at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

Chamber executive director Jill Arenovski said items donated for the business organization’s event this Saturday include Regency Club overnight accommodations at the

Hyatt, Hyatt Kili dinner buffets, Giovanni’s brunches, McDonald’s food certificates, a round trip Delta Airlines ticket to Japan, Pacific Islands Club Saipan overnight stay and waterpark passes, Magellan lunches, World Resort Spaness and Jungle Wave passes, one year DSL service from IT&E, a Galaxy Note 4 from Docomo, a round-trip ticket to anywhere in Asia from United Airlines, and a lovely Gucci

handbag from T Galleria.

The Installation Dinner would swear in the Chamber’s new board of directors, namely Donna Krum, C.E. “Bud” White, Christopher Concepcion of Delta Airlines, Mabel Ayuyu of Re/Max, and Wayne Gillespie of The Salvation Army.

Ayuyu, Gillespie, Krum, and White replace outgoing secretary Greg Moretti, Kevin McCale, Rosemond B. Santos, and Nola K. Hix as directors.

The four will also join current directors led by Chamber president Alex A. Sablan, vice president Velma Palacios, and director Ron Smith.

The Chamber will also award the 2014 Business Person of the Year during the Installation Dinner. The nominees to the prestigious award include Glimpses Publications publisher Maureen Maratita, Triple J vice president of Finance and Administration

Saipan Michael S. Sablan, Pacific Trading general manager Charles Cepeda, Docomo Pacific general manager James Nelson, Pacific Islands Club Saipan executive assistant Vicky Benavente, and Angil Design, Inc. owner Ron Smith.

Aside from the announcement of the winner of the 2014 Business Person of the Year and induction ceremony, Best Sunshine International Ltd. CEO Mark A. Brown will be there serve as the event’s keynote speaker. *(Mark Rabago)*

MTEC gathers elementary kids to talk tourism

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Marianas Tourism Education Council gathered elementary school students from all over the island for the first day of their 2015 Tourism Summit at the Saipan World Resort yesterday.

The summit drew 343 students, according to MTEC chairwoman Vicky Benavente.

“We are not only giving them messages but we are teaching them how to respond to questions like ‘If you work in the industry, what kind of jobs would you be interested in?’” she said on the summit’s goals that day.

Elementary school students took turns presenting these ideas, marking down thoughts about their future in the tourism industry and sharing it with the crowd.

Lifeguards, waiters, emergency responders, and other

jobs were listed for example.

“These kids are thinking about tomorrow while they are still very young,” Benavente said.

An environmental responsibility was also promoted to the kids gathered.

“You got to have one with other,” Benavente said. “You’ve got to respect your environment so our tourists will come.”

Glenn Policare was the keynote speaker yesterday. He is the director of sports, entertainment and activities at the Pacific Island Club Saipan.

He stressed to the students yesterday to greet tourist not only in their local language but “to learn a little bit of their tourist language.”

He taught the hundreds of students how to say “hello” and “thank you” in Korean, Japanese, Russian, and Chinese—the CNMI’s four major markets.

He talked also about environ-

mental awareness—how trash “severely impacts this island and the image of Saipan,” as well as what people can do keep the island clean, like contacting different departments or joining beach cleanups.

“Start at your house, work your way to the community, and pick a spot on the island,” was his environment message.

He said the final message he shared was to create a positive memory with a tourist, whether it is taking a picture, helping a lost guest finding their way, pointing out a restaurant, or a thing to do.

“Our visitors come as guests, and we want them to leave as friends,” he said.

Policare’s career in hospitality has continued for more than 20 years, starting in a summer camp in the mainland, where he worked his way up as junior counselor to program director. He has also worked at Turtle Bay Hilton on the island of Oahu.

“I chose to live on Saipan a number of years ago because the things that people come to visit here on Saipan are not man-made. There’s one Grotto, there’s only one Mt. Tapochau. There’s some absolutely spectacular places on this island that you can’t see anywhere else in the world. Everyone knows Disneyland. But there’s a Disneyland in Tokyo, Los Angeles, and Florida... That’s manmade. People come to visit us for specific reasons. We are a warm destination, we are friendly destination, and we are an absolutely beautiful destination. That is what’s really drawn me to the island,” he said.

He added that yesterday’s summit is an amazing opportunity to help students learn about how “each little contribution they make can make a greater contribution overall.”

The summit continues for its second day today for secondary level students.

MAHAL

From Page 1

ended last Dec. 31, 2014, to the disappointment of a majority of Filipino nonresident workers, who now have to contribute 7.65 percent of their salary per pay period on FICA taxes.

“Being one of the advocates for Filipino workers here on Saipan, I believe FICA deductions shouldn’t be implemented on Filipino CWs, especially to those who have no U.S. citizen children,” said Reyes.

He went on to enumerate four reasons why the FICA deductions should stop:

■ The CW transition will end on 2019 and under the law CW workers would have to go home to their country of origin.

■ CW workers who have no U.S. citizen children have no chance of getting back their FICA contributions because you have to contribute 10 years before you can avail of the social security and retirement benefit.

■ For most Filipino CWs in the CNMI, a 7.65-percent deduction is a big thing and would lead them to spend less on food for their families.

■ It’s also hard for small- to medium-sized companies that are staffed by CW workers because the company share for FICA is an additional cost.

Reyes said the 7.65 per-

cent is equivalent to \$37 per payday for a minimum wage worker earning \$6.05 per hour. That amount is enough to buy a 50-lb bag of rice or a month’s utilities payment.

The MAHAL president said struggling companies would also have no choice but to let go of some of their CW workers because they couldn’t afford to match the FICA contributions.

“We are encouraging all CW holders to have a voice and show solidarity. We know that the concerned agency will listen and understand our call. We are also calling for Congressman [Delegate Gregorio] Kilili [C.] Sablan, the new Congress, and the new government to assist us on this,” said Reyes.

Retired educator Fe Calixterio blasted the U.S. government for again deciding to lift the exemption of Filipino CWs from paying FICA taxes.

“It’s not fair. You have to pay 10 years before you are even able to collect. These CWs will not stay here after 2019. Who is so heartless to impose a fee on somebody who don’t expect anything in return?” said the retired ABE director and GED administrator of the Northern Marianas College.

Calixterio suggested that if the CNMI government can get billions of dollars from an investor like Best Sunshine International Ltd., why not

court other business entities to again invest on the islands instead of taking money away from CW workers.

“Is the U.S. so heartless and not concerned anymore? If they can bring big investments like Best Sunshine, they should just bring more of these investments to get money.”

Calixterio, a U.S. citizen since 1976, said she plans to visit Delegate Sablan’s office when the four-term congressman returns to the island.

“It’s a burden not only to employees but also to employers. What can they expect in return? Nothing. Zero. Somebody thought this was crazy to do then when this was first implemented in 2011. Now it’s coming up again. Please be fair. Justice for all is actually the basis of the U.S. government. Let’s be fair to CWs and those not staying here after 2019.”

Human rights activist and former Rota teacher Wendy Doromal said it’s simply unjust for the federal government to continue deducting FICA taxes on individuals who would not benefit from the program.

“I do not believe that any temporary nonresident worker should be paying FICA taxes regardless of nationality. Since nonresident workers are renewed year-to-year, and there is no pathway to citizenship in the current CNMI-Only

Transitional Worker Program, there is no guarantee that they will be in the U.S. long enough to qualify to receive the benefits,” she said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

Doromal said a worker would have to work for 40 quarters—10 years—to be eligible to receive Social Security benefits.

“It is wrong to deduct 7.65 percent (6.2 percent for Social Security and 1.45 percent for Medicare) from the employee’s earnings each pay period when the employee’s immigration status is not permanent. Already the nonresidents workers in the CNMI earn poverty wages, with the CNMI federal minimum wage being a mere \$6.05 an hour. Why should any temporary nonresident employee pay into this system? I imagine the affected CNMI employers are not pleased about having to pay the 7.65 percent matching tax either.”

Prior to Nov. 28, 2011, Filipino workers were considered exempt from paying these taxes. The CNMI remained on a wait-and-see mode, trying to get clarification from IRS regarding the application of FICA taxes as a result of federalization of local immigration.

Workers from China and Korea, among other foreign workers in the CNMI, have been paying FICA taxes.

MAN

From Page 1

had dry bloodstain on his neck. When the officer asked about the bloodstain, Ronald claimed he got it from helping his mother.

While medics were attending to the victim, the officer saw that the victim’s injuries were not consistent with falling from a bed. The officer noticed a bloodied blanket on the bed and some dry blood on the victim’s face.

Medics told the officer that the victim’s injuries were not from falling but due to something else. Medics then brought the victim to the hospital.

The officer later found a witness who was inside a vehicle across the house. The witness told the officer he saw Ronald slap the victim in the face earlier that night.

The witness later told another police officer assisting the investigation that about 30 minutes later, he saw the victim on her bed in the living room with blood on her face and chest.

The witness saw Ronald went into the restroom so he followed him. The witness saw the broken handle of a kitchen knife with blood on it on the floor in front of the restroom. The witness got scared so he ran outside and called for police assistance.

Police arrested Ronald at 1:40am.

Ronald allegedly threatened that when he gets out of jail, he would hurt the officer who arrested him and the person who

called the police.

Police further learned that prior to the incident, Ronald had gone to the beach to drink with friends.

At 7:30pm to 8pm, the witness saw Ronald arrive at the victim’s house. The witness heard the victim tell Ronald she needed to go to the restroom. Ronald then scolded his mother for urinating on the bed and on the floor.

The witness then saw Ronald slap the victim, who was sitting on a chair.

When the witness saw the victim bleeding from her head, he ran to a friend’s house where he called the police. The witness also ran to the Kagman Fire Station to get more help.

When the witness arrived with the fire engine and ambulance personnel, Ronald threatened the witness and told them to leave the house. He then allegedly used a white blanket to cover the victim and hide what he did to her.

The witness said Ronald arrived on Saipan three to four months ago and that it was not his first time to hurt his mother. The report did not specify where the suspect came from before arriving on island.

Three detectives tried to talk to the victim but she refused to say anything and appeared frightened.

A doctor at the Commonwealth Health Center told the officer that the victim’s injuries were caused by a knife or sharp object. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

FATHER

From Page 1

It reportedly rang but nobody replied. He said the phone was later turned off.

“We are still searching and hoping he is okay. Many people in the community know him. He is a very good person,” the brother said.

He said his brother first came to Tinian in 1997 where he worked at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino. Li then moved to Saipan the following year.

The brother opened his Vegetable Plus store only yesterday since he closed it on Sunday as they were so busy searching for

Li throughout the island.

An employee of Saipan Fresh Market stated that Li is a quiet and nice person.

“He is a good employer,” the employee said.

Saipan Fresh Market resumed operations yesterday after being closed since Sunday. Li’s girlfriend is now operating the store.

A family member said Li is already separated from his wife.

Li was reportedly last seen on Saturday at 11am seeing a friend at a tire shop in Puerto Rico. His family reported his disappearance to police on Saturday at 7:56pm.

Li has two daughters—ages 13 and 23—on Saipan.

NMC

From Page 2

Waiting in the wings is the first stage of a Beca-designed campus reconstruction, estimated to cost \$27.5 million. The Board of Regents adopted Beca’s master plan in 2011.

According to its capital cost plan in 2010, it would be imple-

mented in 10 stages, with a total project cost of \$60,730,000.

If completed, the first phase would usher in a new education building, new library, and new student center.

New classrooms, vocation studies and science buildings, as well as new car parking and other building refurbishments would follow in the latter 10 stages, among other things.

Elite Printing's new owner says they're ready for business

The new owner of Elite Printing has made more than \$33,000 in payments to Bank of Saipan since the acquisition of the company from its previous management in March 2014.

Elite Printing Services chief operations officer Oliver A. Cerbo said while this amount is less than the payment agreement made by Elite Printing's previous owner, they believe they have shown their commitment to satisfy their obligations to Bank of Saipan.

"We are in constant communication with Bank of Saipan. We have been very open with our payment strategy," Cerbo told *Saipan Tribune* in response to the bank's lawsuit.

Bank of Saipan Inc. recently filed a lawsuit in Superior Court against Elite Printing's previous

owners—ASG Corp., Floresto S. Segismundo, and his wife, Lorna—to collect \$87,743.41 that allegedly represents the balance of a \$500,000 loan.

BOS also cited the CNMI Department of Finance Division of Revenue & Taxation, and U.S. Department of the Treasury-Internal Revenue Service as co-defendants because these agencies have notices of tax liens against ASG Corp.

Cerbo said BOS has been very gracious, allowing them to focus on growing in order to fully satisfy the terms of the old loan.

"We consider BOS as a friend to our business, helping us sustain the company," Cerbo said.

He pointed out that it is not a secret that Elite Printing has had significant difficulties in the

last several years. In fact, Cerbo said, when they took over Elite Printing in March 2014, it neither had the business license to operate nor was it paying BOS.

"To date, we have satisfied the various government agency requirements that allowed us to acquire a business license," he said.

Cerbo said they have made significant investments rebuilding the printing equipment, fully paying employee back wages and positioning the company for growth.

This January, Cerbo said, is the first month Elite Printing Service is systematically reaching out to customers to advise them that they are open for business.

"Our intention is for our

Saipan branch to once again be the hub of our printing operations including Guam," he said.

Cerbo said while some of their competitors outsource to other countries, they intend to send large jobs from Guam

for processing on Saipan since their machines are built for bulk printing at a lower cost here.

"We consider this our small contribution to Saipan's economy," he said.

Cerbo said any questions

about the company may be directed to him at (671) 777-0047.

"If anyone has any questions about our good standing with Bank of Saipan, they can verify with the bank directly," Cerbo added.

» New owner commits to satisfy obligations to BOS

JKPL undergoing cosmetic touch ups

The Joeten Kiyu Public Library is renovating several areas of the building to ensure safety and a better-suited environment.

According to JKPL executive director John Gonzales, workers have started renovating the library's outside premises.

Several workers painted the façade of the library's entrance and the front stairway.

JKPL technical services librarian Rosalyn Ajoste also noted that several pieces of furniture were added to the library's lobby.

"We added furniture in the

lobby area so that readers can also enjoy the comfort of a couch," Ajoste said.

The library's lobby now has couches for readers to use while tables and chairs in the Pacific Collection areas have also been rearranged to create walkthrough space.

In related news, Ajoste is inviting the community to visit the library tomorrow, Saturday, as author Nelson Krum will be holding a book signing for his new book, *Disaster at Bushehr*.

Krum also held a book signing on Wednesday. (*Jayson Camacho*)



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) will be holding a public hearing on the proposed Honest Profit Saipan Resort Hotel permit application (No. SMS-2014-X-066). The permit application was submitted by the Honest Profit International Limited to construct 312 hotel rooms, suites and villas, coffee shop, banquet hall and meeting rooms, restaurant and bar, swimming pools, garden pool, tennis court, a wedding pavilion, numerous stores and shops, and 263 parking stalls. Included in the proposal are four (4) on-site power generators to ensure that project is self-sufficient. The proposed project site is located on public land, Lot No. 004 I 52, north of Pacific Islands Club Resort, San Antonio, Saipan.

The public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, February 10, 2015, 6:00 PM at the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality conference room, Suite 205, Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan.

Written comments can be submitted to the DCRM Office, Suite 305, Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan, or mail to the Division of Coastal Resources Management, Caller Box 10007 or by fax at 664-8315. The project file is open for review and comment during regular business hours from 7:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M., Monday thru Friday. All written and oral comments received by DCRM will be included as part of the permit application record and will be considered in any decisions concerning the proposed project.

Please contact the DCRM at 664-8300/1 if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the Honest Profit Saipan Resort Hotel.

/s/ Frances A. Castro

Director

Division of Coastal Resources Management

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RON LAMKIN

Members and volunteers of the USP4GG Marianas chapter and other Saipan community members pose with Fr. Rey Rosal and Dr. Celia Lamkin after the Mass.

Filipino group celebrates papal visit to Philippines with Mass

Filipinos and other Saipan residents attended the Sunday Mass at San Jose Church that was celebrated by Rev. Father Rey Rosal to mark the papal visit in the Philippines.

The event was spearheaded by Dr. Celia Lamkin, chairperson of the US Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas chapter and Global Filipino Diaspora Marianas for CNMI and Guam, in collaboration with Fr. Rey Rosal, so that Filipinos in the Commonwealth can be a part of the papal visit despite their physical absence in the Philippines.

The Mass was attended by

more than a hundred Filipinos and several local residents.

"I am very thankful to Rev. Father Rey Rosal and to all the members, volunteers, supporters of the USP4GG, GFDM Marianas chapter and the members of Saipan community," said Lamkin.

Rosal echoed the theme of the papal visit "Mercy and Compassion."

"Let us continue to love one another, help and support each other, and let us have mercy and compassion especially for those who are suffering and in pain, the poor and the needy," said Rosal. (USP4GG)



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to Hold Public Information Meetings and Hearings on the Proposal to Protect 23 Species in Guam and the CNMI

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) announced on January 12, 2015 that it will reopen the public comment period for an additional 30-days on the proposed rule to protect 23 species in Guam and the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). The Service will hold two public hearings and four public information meetings during this time. These meetings and hearings will allow all interested parties additional time and opportunity to comment on the proposed rule.

The information meetings and public hearings will be held at:

University of Guam

Leon Guerrero School of Business and Public Administration Building
Anthony Leon Guerrero Multi-Purpose Room 129
UOG Station
Mangilao, Guam 96923

Times: 5-6 pm public meeting/ 6-8 pm public hearing
Date: January 27, 2015

Multi-Purpose Center (Saipan)

Beach Road
Susupe, Saipan

Times: 5-6 pm public meeting/ 6-8 pm public hearing
Date: January 28, 2015

In addition, the Service will hold additional 2-hour information meetings at:

Sinapalo Elementary School Cafeteria (Rota)

Sinapalo I
Songsong Village, Rota, MP 96951

Times: 6-8 pm public meeting
Date: January 29, 2015

Tinian Elementary School Cafeteria

San Jose Village, Tinian, MP 96952

Times: 9-11 am public meeting
Date: January 31, 2015

For More Information contact Ken Foote at 808/792-9535

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LOCATIONS - Saipan & Rota

CUC processing 18 net-metering applications

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is currently processing 18

net-metering applications since the board approved the program last October, according to CUC executive director Alan Fletcher. Net metering is a low-cost type of renewable energy technology

that allows customers to bank their energy and use it at their convenience and then sell any excess power they produce to CUC. The CUC board approved net metering for its residential

customers in October 2014, allowing residential customers of CUC to install solar panels in their homes and get paid for any excess power that is returned to the CUC grid.

Fletcher clarified, though, that right now, they are accepting application for the net metering program from residential customers only.

CUC is currently not working on a program for commercial businesses, he added.

Before CUC could go all-out on the net metering program, CUC will still have to wait on the current power supply resources request for proposals set by Leidos Engineering LLC, which is due Feb. 23, 2015.

Next, will be an additional analytical work that is needed to determine cost and pricing tariffs to fund centralized storage systems and to recover fixed cost components of supplying base-load power.

"The current net metering law is based on practices in the U.S. and not appropriate for an isolated island nation on 100 percent diesel electric and results in cost shifts (subsidy) by general ratepayers," Fletcher said.

"My position is that tariffs for residential net energy metering should encourage private investment by consumers without offering excessive profits at the expense of other customers. Also, that a larger system, if approved, should pay for the storage necessary to offset operational effects. In doing so, it has been recommended that CUC collect funds from net-metering customers to invest in centralized storage to ensure operational stability," he added.

Muña: Issues in 2012 will likely not reoccur

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With the many changes implemented at the Commonwealth Health Center since the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. took over in 2011 up until last year, chief executive officer Esther Muna now believes the conditions that could have terminated the hospital's certification with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will not happen again.

In her Dec. 31, 2014, annual report and in a letter to Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Muna gave this assurance: "From a state that was clearly leading to termination, with the systematic changes [now], we are encouraged that the resurrection of the issues noted in the September 2012 survey [by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services] will likely not reoccur."

Back in September 2012, CMS did a resurvey of compliance at the hospital and came up with numerous findings and "13 condition-level violations of non-compliance" that placed the hospital in "immediate jeopardy" of losing its certification and losing funding from both the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

"The findings were extremely serious and it risked patient safety and quality of care," Muña said.

Since then, turning the hospital around was a big task, considering CHCC did not receive additional appropriation and was still in a transition state, she said.

"Since funding from Medicare and Medicaid was for services provided to the hospital, any funding received in the form of reimbursement from them needed to be directed to correcting the systems of providing care and complying with the 'conditions of participations' or CoPs."

Corrective measures included hiring personnel for critical positions and purchasing critical equipment and other tools necessary to make "systematic changes" throughout the hospital and dialysis center and bring itself to compliance.

The hospital incorporated a "quality assurance and performance improvement" approach that ensures monitoring, tracking, and sustainability and reorganizing its organizational chart and strengthening its governing body.

Since the 2012 survey, structural improvements included kitchen equipment additions that meet safety standards of the National Fire Protection Association.

The pharmacy services department successfully implemented a Resource Patient Man-

agement System electronic health record, allowing all medication orders and allergy assessment to comply with CMS standards.

Facilities improvements included replacement of a fire pump and fire sprinklers with funding acquired throughout the years. CHCC also had a change in its discharge planning process, reducing its readmissions to 16.35 percent through the beginning of 2014.

Muña noted that resurveys

in 2013 and last year showed a reduction in the number of condition-level violations of non-compliance and CMS always had positive feedback for CHCC's staff and management.

CHCC is now in correcting deficiencies found by CMS last year in September, with the hospital's plan of correction awaiting approval.

CHCC's condition of participation in Medicare will either be decided in April this year or

extended.

"We stress the statements from CMS because it is significant to acknowledge the fact that while we continue to be discouraged that we have yet to receive full compliance, CMS, on the other hand, is encouraging us to maintain the same trajectory as they have clearly seen the improvements," Muña said.

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PSS updating wellness policy to reflect new standards

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System is currently at work on updating its wellness policy, last updated in 2006, according to Dale Roberts, Food and Nutrition Service director and member of the School Health Council.

The Health Hunger Free-Kids Act championed by first lady Michelle Obama has been broadened and made more comprehensive in recent years. According to Roberts, this comes with "a lot more check boxes" to go through to get school programs certified.

According to him, PSS completed a draft wellness policy in 2010 but it was never formally completed.

Right now, he said, they are revising the 2010 document to meet some new federal standards that were set this year, with the aim to present it to the CNMI State Board of Education by the first week of February.

"Hopefully we will have this thing done by the early part of March," he told *Saipan Tribune* Wednesday.

He said a lot of the old language policy was to "consider, support, or emphasize," but now it will be, "We will do this,

and we will do that."

"For example, we have this new 'smart snacks in schools' regulation that regulates every kind of food that can be available in the school. We needed to add that in to update our policy." This, he said "puts a limits on the amount of sugar an item can have."

According to him, FNS has an online calculator that can use information provided from an item's food and nutrition label to see if the item "is legal to serve at a school or not."

Every school in the U.S. that receives national school lunch program funds is required to

have a wellness policy. According to Roberts, these policies have been broadened because FNS is "slowly trying to gain and make it so that everybody is eventually learning healthy lifestyle choices when they're younger."

To touch up the document, Roberts is now gathering comments from stakeholders, parents, teachers, school administrators, PTA officials, and even trying to get health officials to get on board for input.

For example, he said one eye doctor has a great data on diabetes rates on island.

"I'd like get to him on this committee," he said.

Because everyone in the community has to be able to access the policy, they are making sure

to make the policy readable, understandable, and culturally appropriate.

"There's no point in making a policy that no one is going to follow," he said.

The policy in the works is being modeled after some school districts in the United States that are "scaled down" but still meet U.S. Department of Agriculture requirements, according to Roberts.

"It's actually kind of a middle-of-the-road-one. It's not too weak, and it's not too strong. And it's something that we can attain. So I am meeting with the groups to see what we can add and what we need to take out so it matches our community."

The policy entails physical education and activity com-

ponents, and nutrition education components, as well as the kinds of foods that can be made available in schools.

"People bring snacks to school everyday. We want to set up an environment where we are not encouraging them to do unhealthy things and that's basically what the policy is all about."

Roberts also said that USDA would be visiting PSS on their school meal programs by the end of February. While they would not have the policy completed by then, "we'll have most of the process done."

Military, agencies to train in Guam against attack

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—The Guam National Guard is gearing up for a massive training exercise next week that will simulate destructive real-world scenarios such as terrorist threats.

The National Guard's 94th Civil Support Team is participating in the multi-government training event that kicks off Tuesday morning. The Guard unit specializes in responses to weapons of mass destruction, *Pacific Daily News* reported.

Next week's exercise is called Kontra I Piligru and will involve more than 40 government agencies.

"We are in a very dynamic situation in the 21st century," Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo said Wednesday at a news conference in Barrigada to announce the exercise. "It's interesting to note that we are the closest American soil to one of the most dangerous rogue states in the world, North Korea."

Ray Toves, director of the Army Pacific's training and readiness division, said he could not provide details on scenarios to be played out in the training, but it would be loud.

Store owner sentenced for food stamp fraud scheme

Kun Sup Song, 57, was sentenced yesterday by Chief Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood in the District Court of Guam, to serve five years of probation with conditions to include eight months of home confinement, and to pay \$170,021 in restitution to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service.

Also, Tydingco-Gatewood ordered a \$70,000 money judgment of forfeiture; and the forfeiture of approximately \$38,000 and a Toyota 4Runner involved in the fraud, which had been seized by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Song owned and operated Sky Mart, a small convenience store in Yigo. He pleaded guilty on March 27, 2014 to unauthorized use of food stamp benefits.

Song's store participated in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, previously known as the Food Stamp Program. Under SNAP, authorized recipients are issued a certain amount of benefits each month, which they may use to purchase eligible food items. SNAP recipients receive their benefits in the form of a credit on their personal electronic

benefit transfer card. SNAP benefits may not be used to purchase ineligible items, and cannot be redeemed for cash, loans, or items sold on credit.

Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, U.S. Attorney for Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, states: "Opportunistic store owners who take advantage of our low-income population, by adding interest for items bought on credit, unlawfully take monies that food stamp card holders could have used on food. Food stamp card holders cannot be discriminated against by charging them interest. Retailers who do not follow SNAP regulations by concealing they are selling items on credit, or redeeming food stamp cards for cash or loans, will not be tolerated and are subject to criminal prosecution."

From Jan. 1, 2011 to Aug. 4, 2013, Song engaged in a scheme to defraud and fraudulently obtain money in excess of \$170,000 from the USDA. The defendant used his business to redeem SNAP benefits in exchange for extending credit to SNAP recipients, and payment on their credit accounts with Sky Mart. Song also redeemed

SNAP benefits for ineligible purchases made by customers. As part of the scheme, he engaged in fictional and illegal transactions with SNAP recipients that purported to be for eligible food items.

Through the hard work of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and USDA Office of Inspector General's Office, in August 2013, law enforcement were able to seize a portion of the proceeds of the fraud and a vehicle which helped facilitate the fraud.

Limtiaco stated, "The court's forfeiture order effectively results in taking the profit out of this food stamp fraud. The defendant's scheme to defraud involved the SNAP program, which is designed to supplement the income of eligible members of the community and ensure families can afford the groceries they need. When opportunistic retailers defraud the system, limited tax dollars are diverted from their intended use."

The case was investigated by the FBI and USDA Office of Inspector General. Assistants U.S. Attorney Marivic David and Belinda Alcantara prosecuted the case. (USAO)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

2 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged Jeffrey's Beach and Hidden Beach on Saipan and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified. Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. (DEQ)

NMPASI closed on Jan. 30

The Northern Marianas Protection & Advocacy Systems, Inc. would like to let the public know that our office will be closed on Jan. 30, 2015, from 8am to 5pm, for Staff Development. Business will resume on Feb. 2, 2015. (PR)

Air Force training at

Farallon de Medinilla

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla today, Jan. 23, from 7am to 2pm. The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the dates and times indicated. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. (PR)

Chamber Installation Dinner tomorrow

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will have no general membership meeting this month. Instead it will celebrate with its Installation Dinner tomorrow, Jan. 24, at the Hibiscus Hall of the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan. The Chamber will welcome its newest board members and will announce its 2014 Business Person of the Year. A silent auction will offer fabulous prizes! Tickets are \$50/person. (SCC)

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Refusing to play ball, Obama will strike out



As President Barack Obama strode into the House Chamber on Tuesday to present the penultimate State of the Union address of his checkered presidency, there was unsettling news around the world.

In the Yemeni capital of Sana'a, Shiite Houthis rebels overthrew the government of President Abed Rabbu Mansour Hadi, whom Obama has held out as a critical partner in this nation's fight against the Islamic State.

In Tokyo, Japan's Cabinet met to discuss the government's response to a demand by the Islamic State for a \$200 million ransom for two Japanese hostages who otherwise face beheading.

And, in Havana, the government of Raul Castro welcomed into port a Russian spy ship on the eve of talks with the Obama administration on normalized relations.

Obama had little to say about those three foreign-policy concerns during his annual remarks before a joint session of Congress. Instead, he spent much of his hour-long speech directing fire at the new Republican majority on Capitol Hill.

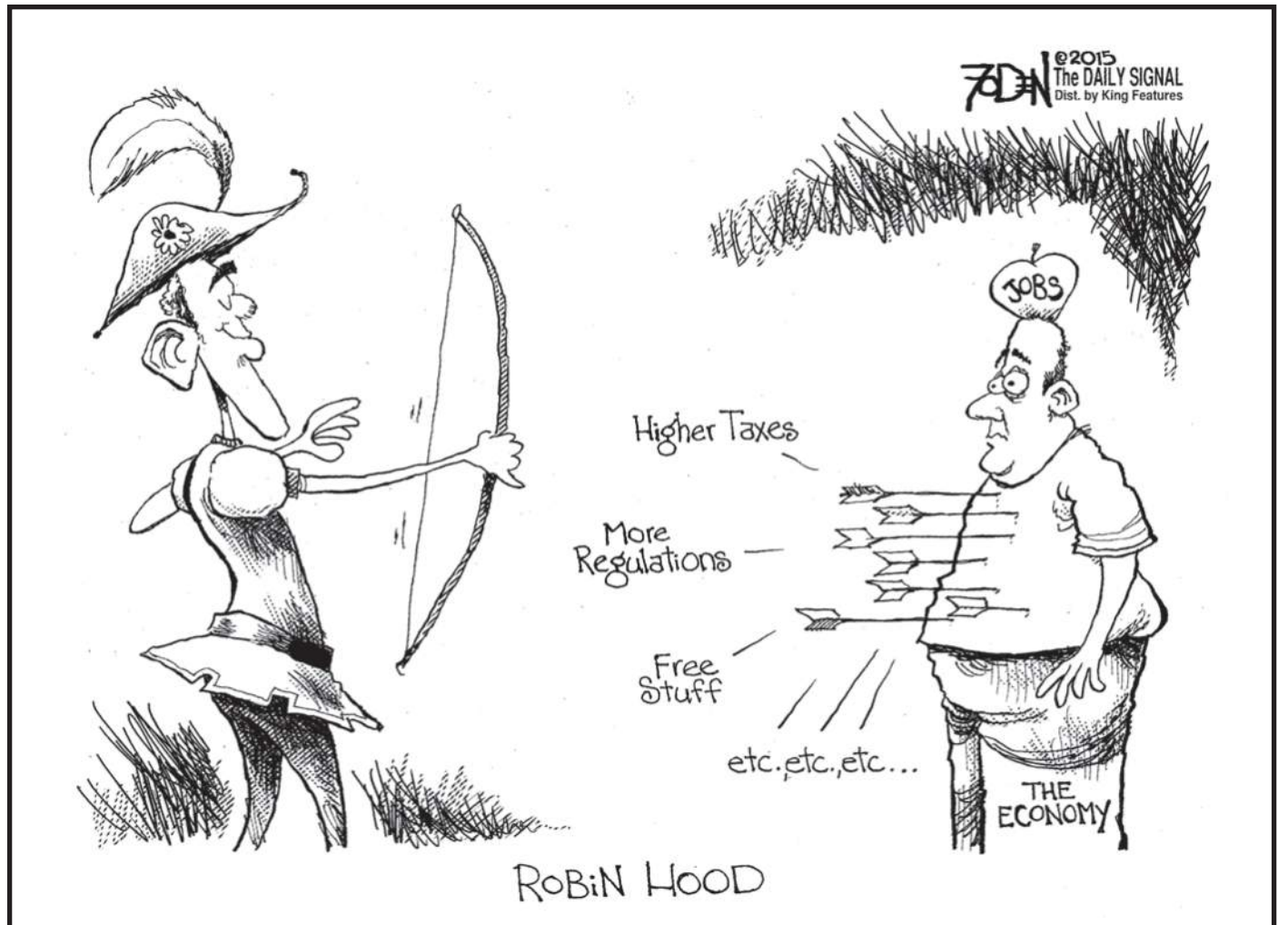
Indeed, he offered a number of proposals whose sole purpose, it seemed, was to provoke the GOP—including a \$320 billion tax hike, a \$60 billion federal-financed community college entitlement, and a nearly 40 percent increase in the federally mandated minimum wage.

Yes, the president mouthed perfunctory platitudes about pursuing "common purpose" with Republicans on a few selected issues. He also suggested that he and Republican leaders should agree to disagree on many more issues.

The problem is that Obama could barely conceal his disdain for his loyal opposition.

After six years in the White House, he still does not understand the basics of statesmanship: that at least a modicum of civility is required between two differing parties before they can even agree to disagree; and that, absent that modicum of civility,

See OBAMA on Next Page



How do immigrants become Americans?

How do immigrants become Americans?

It goes beyond becoming a citizen, and even formally signing on with the American political creed. The key ingredient is something I know intimately from my own family's experience, namely, gratitude. It is, typically, an immigrant's feelings of gratitude to America for the liberty, security, and opportunity our nation affords him and his family that leads to his appreciation of the ideals and institutions of American cultural, economic, and civic life.

From this appreciation comes an immigrant's belief in the goodness of American ideals and the value of the constitutional structures and institutions by which they are effectuated. And from this belief arises his aspiration to become a citizen together with his willingness to shoulder the responsibilities of citizenship and even to make great sacrifices for the nation—his nation—should it come to that.

My own immigrant grandfathers came to the United States a little more than a hundred years ago. Like most immigrants, they were not drawn here by any abstract belief in the superiority of the American political system.

My father's father came from Syria fleeing oppression visited upon him and his family as members of a relatively small ethnic and religious minority group. My mother's father came to escape the poverty of southern Italy. They both worked on the railroads and in the mines. My maternal grandfather settled in West Virginia and saved enough money to start a little grocery store, which became a flourishing business. My paternal grandfather spent his entire life as a laborer. He died of emphysema, no doubt as a result of the pulmonary health hazards of coal mining in those days.

Both men were exceedingly grateful for what America made possible for them and their families. Their gratitude was not diminished when times got hard in the Great Depression. Although both my grandfathers encountered ethnic prejudice, they viewed this as an aberration—a failure of some Americans to live up to the nation's ideals. It did not dawn on them to blame the bad behavior on America itself. On the contrary, America in their eyes was a land of unsurpassed blessing. It was a nation of which they were proud and happy to become citizens. And even before they became citizens they had become patriots—men who deeply appreciated what America is and what she stands for.

I suspect that as I tell these stories, many readers are thinking of their grandparents or great-grandparents. The amazing and wonderful thing is that a family story like mine of immigrant ancestors becoming Americans is not the exception; it is the norm. (Of course, the story of Africans brought to America as slaves and then subjected to segregation and discrimination even after slavery was abolished is a radically different one—a story of injustice and a stain upon our nation's history. Yet the great efforts to right these wrongs and live up to our national ideals of liberty and justice are

By **ROBERT P. GEORGE**

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Robert P. George is the McCormick Professor of Jurisprudence and director of the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University. He wrote this for the Philadelphia Inquirer.



also part of our heritage.)

I believe that immigration has been a great strength for America and that it will continue to be so. I certainly hope that immigrants will continue to want to be Americans. Does this mean that I reject what is known as "multiculturalism?"

It depends. I certainly see no need to encourage immigrants to abandon their customs, traditions, and ethnic or religious identities; on the contrary, I think it is good for families, and good for America, for immigrants to honor their ethnic customs and identities and pass them along to the next generation. Immigrants have always done this, and it is fine and good—a source of strength. Of course, this is to be distinguished from an ideology that promotes the rejection of a primary and central political allegiance to the United States and its ideals and institutions. And it is certainly to be distinguished from any ideology that denies the fundamental goodness of America's principles of political and civil liberty.

Now, where a culture of opportunity flourishes, immigrants will feel, as my grandparents felt, gratitude for the opportunities they are afforded to lift themselves up, and make a better life for their children, by dint of hard work and determination to succeed. However, it appears to be a brute fact of human psychology that where a culture of entitlement prevails, gratitude even for charitable assistance will not emerge. A culture of entitlement ends up reinforcing an attitude that impedes the gratitude that enables immigrants to become Americans.

As I said, I want immigrants to become Americans. I want them to believe in American ideals and institutions. I want them to "hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, and among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." I want them to believe, as I believe, in the dignity of the human being, in all stages and conditions of life; in limited government, republican democracy, equality of opportunity, morally ordered liberty, private property, economic freedom, and the rule of law. I want them to believe in these ideals and principles not because they are ours, but because they are noble and good and true.

But the transmission of American ideals to immigrants and, in-

See AMERICANS on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

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Grooving on retro

Can you name an industry that's logging over 50 percent growth? Well, here you go: Last year's sales of vinyl records was a 52-percent increase from the prior year; 2013 tallied 6.1 million records sold, while 2014 tallied 9.2 million.

This action is a far cry from vinyl's pre-CD heyday, but, still, it's a long way up from the year 1993 which, for the sake of contrast, saw just 300,000 records sold.

This story is delightfully retro. That's why I like it, so I'm going to blow some dust off the past just for the fun of it.

I don't know how many vinyl records, be they new or old, are being played on Saipan, but I'm sure there are some. Cars and other machinery rust away too soon on the islands, but vinyl doesn't corrode.

Vinyl records, for those who haven't encountered them, are thin plastic disks the size of dinner plates. Before CDs and other digital media came along, these records, along with magnetic cassette tapes, were how most of us bought our music. By the late '80s CD players were common household items and vinyl was on its way out.

As for 2014, I stumbled across this gig in a big city bookstore, where I saw a display devoted to newly-produced vinyl records. Vinyl? For a moment I thought I had fallen into a time warp.

As if on cue, a bubbly 20-year-old store clerk entered the picture from stage left. Noting my interest in the records, she addressed me. "Oh, those are the latest thing," she said.

"Latest?" I asked.

"Yeah. You need a special player to play them. A good one is, like, \$200. I'm going to get one someday."

As for record players, there are, indeed, contemporary models on

the market, ranging from \$50 into the hundreds of dollars at the consumer level, and I'm sure the specialist niche goes higher than that.

Something that I haven't seen on the modern market (though I haven't really looked carefully) is what we used to call a "changer." Instead of playing records one at a time, a changer automatically played several of them sequentially. This was remarkable engineering: It was wacky, it was intricate, and it worked. Out of sheer awe I'll attempt a description, though memories and words might fail me:

You'd start by stacking a few records, like pancakes, atop a spindle on the record player. A flange on the spindle would retract, allowing the bottom-most record to plop down onto a spinning platter.

The record on the spinning platter was read by a needle that rode atop the record's surface. The needle was housed at the end of a pivoting arm called a "tone arm." As part of the changer's elegant ballet, when one record was done playing and it was time for the next one to fall down into playing position, the tone arm would pitch up, thus lifting the needle up from the record that just played, and then the tone arm would swing out of the way so the new record could drop down. The new record would drop down (landing atop the one that just played) and the tone arm would swing back into place over the new record. Once in position, the tone arm would gently pitch down to lower the needle onto the record surface. The music would start to play.

Magic! And for all their ingenious intricacy, changers were so inexpensive that even teenagers had them.

As cool as that scene was, many purists took a dim view of mechanically plop-dropping records on top of each other like pancakes. So I think most of the high-end turntables (record players) were one-at-a-time affairs, dispensing with the tall spin-

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com.

His column runs every Friday.



dles of stacked-up records.

Although you could injure a record by scratching it, and if you abused them they could warp, outside of that nothing short of a bazooka could mortally wound them. I don't have a large music collection, in fact, it's miniscule, so I don't nearly have enough data to really mean anything. Still, I have noticed that my vinyl records have, on average, been less prone to failure than my CDs. I'll also note that that some of my favorite tunes never made it to CD to begin with. No, I'm not trying to play off vinyl vs. CDs, both have served me well, but I think vinyl sure deserves some respect.

The cardboard sleeves that records came in had roughly a square-foot of surface area. Album-cover art was a very big part of pop-culture.

Well, such are some of the memories that come along with vinyl's retro revival. How far will it go? I have no idea, and I'm not really sure what inspired it to begin with. I'll leave those matters to people who are knowledgeable in this realm. Me, I'm just a slob with a few records to play. And, as such, vinyl brings back good memories. That's all I know, and, in fact, that's all I have to know.

Tidings from near and far

Diving v. Snorkeling: In his debut speech, Sen. Sixto Igisomar candidly said the NMI is below water, financially or fiscally. He wants to work with leadership to bring it up to "snorkeling" level. Not quite so fast, sir. We'd be at the drowning level for many moons to come. Obligations for the next decade are over \$12 billion.

Per glaring red figures, insightful intuition says we're headed into a dimension in fiscal crisis way beyond what meets the eye. You could spin it to deflect the truth but it would be all wax—shiny but no depth—at all. The fiscal temblor gets louder by the day. Dive deeper, Sixto!

Tiptoeing: It is rumored that Lt. Gov. Ralph Torres and House Speaker Joseph Leon Guerrero would be retained to teach the guys and gals how to do the "Chamber Tiptoe" fire dance. Their job is to move in stealth fashion any controversial legislation that runs against the grain of the wishes of "we the people." Senate President Victor Hocog wants in on the deal too. Would Hocog and Guerrero ever learn that their jobs are down here, not up there next to the pilot's cockpit? Halloo!

Fiscal Rumblings: A seismologist has been also hired to teach the elected elite how to steer clear of the dangers of fiscal tectonic rumblings downstairs.

They were told to deliver more speeches glorifying the economic mess at home. You see, this is the indigenous way of resolving difficult issues—more talk mired in uncertainty—dumb it down!

Call it indigenous resiliency. I'm beginning to fall for this BS too!

Is Santa Coming? Our simple folks have decided to kick back and wait for Santa's arrival this November when another 10 silvers would be handed CUC for utility vouchers. Gee! Like I said, I'm beginning to like the unexpected BS and gen-

erosity of Asia's Santa!

But what if Santa terminates the new Annual Christmas Drop? The Transition Team would be revived to start building bamboo reed airplanes so we begin practicing airdrops by summer. Would there be moola for the airdrop or just tañgantañgan seeds?

Embarrassing Word: Nursing bouts with failed ambition to return to glory, Juan N. Babauta and Edward Deleon Guerrero were seen ordering a dictionary that excludes the word "principle." But the duo has settled for "principal" which opens some room to maneuver in and out of political prostitution.

Leadership Scarcity: Rota isn't suffering from the lack of goods as much as drowning interminably in joblessness! So what good would 10 40-foot containers do when people don't have the money to buy basic needs? Why sleepwalk this growing beast? Leadership, anybody? Or are they taking long lunches, again?

Planning, anybody? With a mandate to rid the NMI of foreign workers in five years time, how would the guys and gals find warm bodies for the construction and staffing of the Saipan casino?

Again, it's a demonstration of our newfound toy in "advancing to the rear." It's problematic and it happens when one fails to do "due diligence." The color and hue of sunrise now begins turning reddish like a rainbow of colors at sunset.

Verbal Calisthenics: Magoo mentioned single Chamorro words that all must learn especially when you're boasting your new Sears Roebuck and JC Penny ties upstairs. They are "Oi", "Ai", "Magpu" and "Dalai".

"Oi" is a short cut used when knocking on somebody's door. You say "oi" as you knock the door in hopes someone answers. Most folks upstairs need some rude lessons in the use of this word for the next two years.

"Ai" is an expression of a serious sigh when something's gone

those they would otherwise support if Obama was more of a uniter than divider.

We think it no coincidence that no president since Gerald Ford (who served only two years) has had fewer of his State of the Union proposals fully or partly enacted than Obama.

That those five presidents had a higher success rate than Obama has managed so far is not because they had a more agreeable Congress to work with.

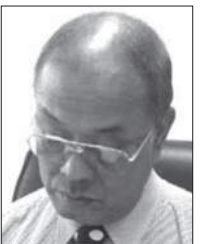
It's because Obama's predecessors were able to disagree with the opposition party without being disagreeable—a leaderly trait Obama sorely lacks.

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By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



wrong. It's a word the hill cabal must steer clear at all cost. After all, you're blessed with a head on your shoulders with eyes, ears, nose, and mouth to use appropriately in the honest disposition of matters of state.

"Magpu" simply means it's done successfully or unsuccessfully. If you use it by any chance crashing into the latter, it simply means leave the scene of the crime!

"Dalai" is basically an inquisition when appalled or stunned by purposeful negligence. If you ever use this word you're in for lots of unpleasant surprises.

Now if you think you could navigate the combined use of these terms, consult the physician from As Gonno for the right diagnosis. You've killed a two-headed corn snake that keeps returning in spring. This is because you didn't get rid of the other head. Thus the crawler still moves, especially during rainy days.

AMERICANS

From Page 10

deed, to anyone, including new generations of native-born Americans, depends on the maintenance of a culture in which these ideals flourish. The maintenance of such a culture is a complicated business—one with many dimensions. But in this democratic nation of immigrants in which "We the People" have the privilege and responsibility of governing ourselves, it is every citizen's business.

And it is certainly the special business of institutions of higher learning. For such institutions, civic education—education that advances the understanding of our nation's constitutional principles and institutions—is a high calling and a solemn obligation. If, as James Madison said, "only a well-educated people can be permanently a free people," then civic education is vital to the success of the grand experiment in ordered liberty that Madison and the other founding fathers bequeathed to us and our posterity.

OBAMA

From Page 10

it is difficult for the opposing parties to reach accord even on the selected issues on which they actually agree.

The White House thinks that because Republicans last year passed a measure proposing higher education tax breaks, and considered a fee on large financial institutions as part of corporate tax reform, they should blithely embrace similar proposals by Obama in his State of the Union address.

But when the president uses his address to threaten the Republican Congress with vetoes, it hardly puts the majority in a mood to pass any of the president's proposals, including

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 15 to 20 mph.

▲88° ▼79°

SATURDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 15 to 20 mph.

▲88° ▼79°

SUNDAY

Partly cloudy.
Isolated showers.

▲88° ▼79°

MONDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

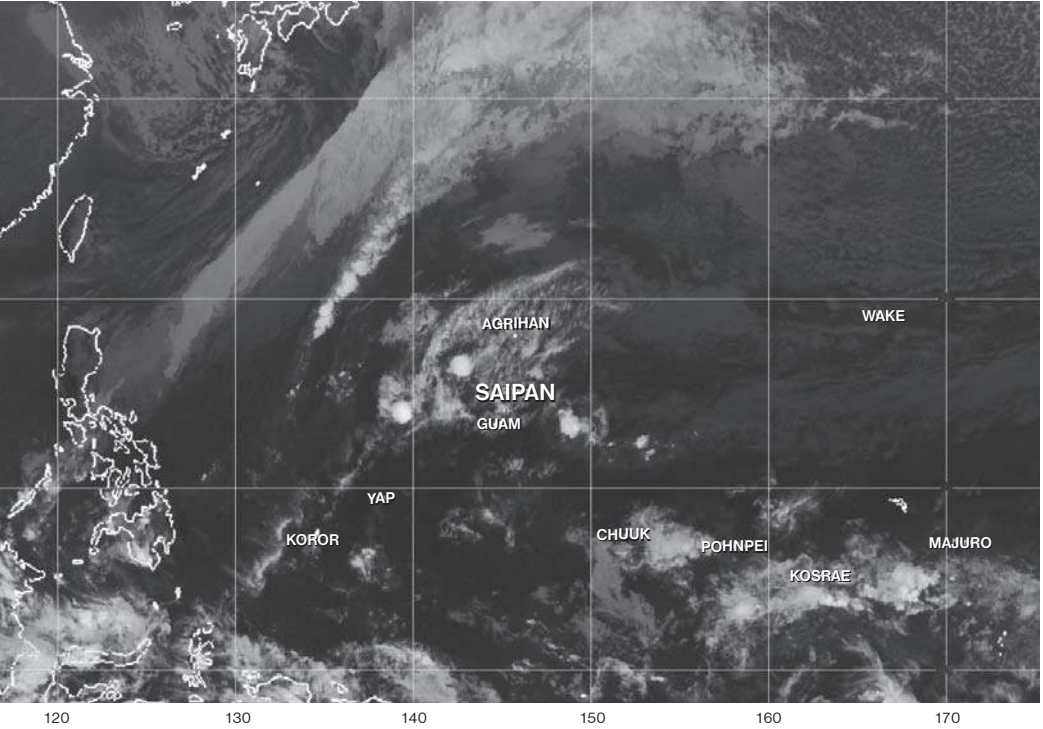
▲88° ▼79°

TUESDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲88° ▼79°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2015
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A shear line runs west-southwestward from 18N180E across the Marianas between Rota and Tinian to 13N140E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring within 50 miles of 13N141E and around Tinian and Saipan between 14N and 16N from 141E to 148E. Low clouds and patchy showers are located along and up to 200 miles north of the shear line east of 13N152E. A cold front transitioning to a shear line stretches west-southwestward from 21N180E to 18N155E then curves northwestward to 25N139E. Cloudiness and patchy showers are found over Wake Island and Iwo To Island along and up to 200 miles north of this boundary. A cold front west of Iwo To Island runs southwestward from 25N139E to 18N130E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring along and northwest of the front to beyond 25N. A near-equatorial trough curves eastward from 2N158E to 4N180E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring just south of Kosrae and Majuro within 160 miles of the trough axis. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers around Pohnpei between 5N and 7N from 155E to 159E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼77
Palau	Sunny	▲85	▼77
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼80
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼80
Majuro	Windy	▲83	▼81

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲79	▼64
Beijing	Sunny	▲50	▼23
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲66	▼57
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲81	▼68
London	Partly Cloudy	▲41	▼32
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼49
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲81	▼71
Melbourne	Sunny	▲79	▼59
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲79	▼70
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲41	▼26
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲47	▼36
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲40	▼29
Pusan	Sunny	▲48	▼31
Rome	Showers	▲56	▼48
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲51	▼45
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼50
Seoul	Sunny	▲42	▼26
Tokyo	Windy	▲53	▼37
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	▲46	▼30

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
3:35 AM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.4 Feet
10:14 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
4:13 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
9:25 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:47 AM	6:11 PM
Saturday	6:47 AM	6:12 PM
Sunday	6:47 AM	6:12 PM
Monday	6:47 AM	6:13 PM
Tuesday	6:47 AM	6:13 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	8:45 AM	8:59 PM
Saturday	9:34 AM	9:58 PM
Sunday	10:22 AM	10:56 PM
Monday	11:09 AM	11:53 PM
Tuesday	11:56 AM	

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

NEWS DESK

For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 5, 2015

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:20pm	4:00pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:10pm	4:00pm	2, 4
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:20pm	2:55pm	6, 7
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
UA5039	3:25pm	4:00pm	6, 7
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)			
DL287	6:05am	1:10am+1	2, 6 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:20pm	7:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ6063	3:20am	7:10am	3, 4, 6, 7
OZ604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily
7C 3401	4:30pm	8:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:00am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	1, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:30am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5069/PR111	2:45am	4:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/191	4:15am	7:20am	2, 7 via GUM
UA5070/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/275	6:05am	9:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5071/PR111	6:40am	4:50pm	3 via GUM
UA5071/PR111	7:15am	4:50pm	1, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:50pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:30pm	5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:10pm	9:50pm	4 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/723	2:10am	12:50pm	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/723	2:40am	12:50pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/179	4:15am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:00am	10:35pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:20pm	10:35pm	6 via Rota-GUM
UA5078/179	3:10pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:20pm	10:30pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:00pm	1:50pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:10pm	2:40pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5038	2:05pm	2:40pm	2, 4
PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL298	4:35am	3:00pm	3, 7 via NRT
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	Daily
7C 3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ6053	8:50pm	2:10am+1	2, 3, 5, 6
BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:55pm	3:10am+1	1, 5
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
PR110/UA5041	7:35am	6:25pm	1, 5 via GUM
PR110/UA5077	7:35am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
PR110/UA5043	7:35am	10:10pm	1, 5 via GUM
DL172/288	9:40am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 7 via GUM
UA190/5077	10:00am	8:05pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA184/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5039	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5038	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	4 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	1 via GUM
UA184/5041	10:55pm	6:25pm+1	1 via GUM
UA184/5077	10:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5043	10:55pm	10:10pm+1	1 via GUM
UA184/5071	10:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM
UA184/5038	10:59pm	2:40pm+1	2 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:59pm	2:40pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5041	10:59pm	6:25pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5077	10:59pm	8:05pm+1	2 via GUM
UA184/5043	10:59pm	10:10pm+1	5 via GUM
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ750/603	1:10am	2:20pm	Daily via ICN
OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ724/605	2:20pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:15pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ724/605	2:20pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	10:55pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM
UA180/5071	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5039	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	6 via GUM
UA180/5077	10:55pm	2:40pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota
UA180/5041	10:55pm	6:25pm+1	1, 5 via GUM
UA180/5077	10:55pm	8:05pm+1	3, 6 via GUM
UA180/5043	10:55pm	10:10pm+1	1, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Mon, Tue,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
			8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily	4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily			
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily			
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily	12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily			
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily			
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily			
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily			
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily			
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily			
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily			
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily						
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily						

ROTA TO SAIPAN		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

TOHA SUPERMARKET

WEEKEND SALE

7:00AM-11:00 PM (MON-SUN)

MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED
WE ACCEPT BANK OF GUAM PACIFIC EXPRESS



WE ACCEPT FOOD STAMP

PRICES MAY CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Calrose Rice \$32⁴⁹ 50lbs		King Chef Soybean Oil \$29⁹⁹ 5lbs		Chicken Leg Quarter \$17⁹⁹ 22lbs \$24⁹⁹ 33lbs		Whole Chicken \$42⁹⁹ 33lbs	
Pork Spareribs \$26⁹⁹ 20lbs		Babyribs \$21⁹⁹ 10lbs		Ichiban \$12⁹⁹ 24pcs/1 case		Max Butane Gas \$22⁹⁹ CASE	

GROCERIES | GROCERIES | GROCERIES | GROCERIES | GROCERIES | GROCERIES | GROCERIES | GROCERIES | GROCERIES | GROCERIES | GROCERIES | GROCERIES

Coffee Mate \$7⁹⁹ 50 OZ.	Del Monte Whole Kernel Corn \$1⁰⁹ 15 OZ.	Spam All Kinds \$2³⁵ EA. LIMIT 6	Black Label Luncheon \$1⁷⁵ EA. LIMIT 6	Hormel Corned Beef \$3¹⁹ 50Z.	Ox & Palm Corned Beef Buy 6 pcs Get one Anchor Milk FREE \$3²⁹	Kimchee Base \$5⁹⁹ 15.87OZ.	Campbell's Chicken Noodle 99¢ 10 OZ.	Carnation Milk Evap \$1²⁹	Del Monte Pasta Sauce \$1⁴⁹ All Kinds	White Sugar \$2⁶⁹ 2 KG.
Fresco Vegetable Oil \$9⁹⁹ 1 Gal.	Dragon Vegetable Oil \$9⁴⁹ 1GAL.	Filma Oil \$8⁹⁹ 5 Liters	Kikkoman Soy Sauce \$4⁶⁹ 1.6 L.	Tabasco \$6⁴⁹ 12FL.OZ.	Yours Lemon Powder \$5⁴⁹ 5.29OZ.	Kellogg's Triple Pak \$12⁹⁹	Korean Soba (Box) 12ct. \$8⁹⁹	Country Lime Lemonade, Tang Orange, Kool-Aid \$8⁹⁹	Nestea \$8⁴⁹ 90.30Z.	Saipan Ice Water \$6⁹⁹ 350ML.

FROZEN | FROZEN | FROZEN | FROZEN | FROZEN | FROZEN | FROZEN | FROZEN | FROZEN | FROZEN | FROZEN | FROZEN | FROZEN | FROZEN | FROZEN

Tilapia \$1²⁵ per lb.	Milk Fish \$1⁸⁹ per lb.	Bar S Jumbo Franks \$1³⁵	Best Buy Bacon \$3⁴⁹ 16 OZ.	Gusto Cooked Ham \$21⁹⁹ 10 lbs	Ground Beef \$15⁹⁹ 5LBS.	Chamorro Sausage \$3⁹⁹	Vega Shrimp \$6⁹⁹ 21/25
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PRODUCE | PRODUCE | PRODUCE | PRODUCE | PRODUCE | PRODUCE | PRODUCE | PRODUCE | PRODUCE

Onion 69¢ PER LB.	Garlic 99¢ PER BAG	Potato 99¢ PER LB.	Celo Apple \$1⁶⁹ LB.	Orange \$1²⁹ LB.	Honeydew/Cantaloupe \$1²⁹ PER LB.	Korean Pear \$2⁹⁹ PER LB.
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FAMILY BAG | FAMILY BAG | FAMILY BAG |

Stewing Chicken	\$6.99	Pork Chop	\$11.99
Chicken Leg Qtr	\$4.99	Pork Spareribs	\$6.99
Chicken Nuggets	\$11.99	Pork Butt Steak	\$9.99
Chicken Wings	\$12.99	Beef Ribeye	\$15.99
Turkey Tail	\$6.99	Beef Stew	\$12.99
Mackerel Fish	\$5.99	Beef Shank	\$12.99
Mackerel Pike	\$6.49	Beef Feet	\$4.99
Pork Hock	\$7.99	Beef Shortribs	\$19.99
Pork Adobo	\$9.99	Ox Tail	\$15.99
Pork Bellies	\$11.99	Smoked Ham Steak	\$12.99

NON-FOOD | NON-FOOD | NON-FOOD | NON-FOOD | NON-FOOD | NON-FOOD | NON-FOOD | NON-FOOD | NON-FOOD | NON-FOOD | NON-FOOD | NON-FOOD

Safeguard Soap 89¢	Joy Ultra \$1⁴⁹ 12.5 oz \$6⁹⁹ 90 oz	Dawn Dishwashing Liquid \$6⁹⁹ 56 oz	Purex \$4²⁹ 50 OZ.	Gain Liquid \$4⁹⁹ 50 oz \$9⁹⁹ 100 oz	Gain Powder \$15⁹⁹ 102 Loads \$18⁹⁹ 120 Loads	Head & Shoulders All Kinds \$4⁹⁹ 23OZ. \$7⁹⁹ Shampoo	Bounty Paper Towel \$20⁹⁹ 15 Rolls	Charmin Basic Toilet Paper \$7⁹⁹ 12ROLLS \$14⁹⁹ 24ROLLS	Kordie Foam Plates \$5⁹⁹ 150 CT	Charmin Tissue (Regular) \$7⁹⁹ 24 Rolls
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Marijuana momentum is growing

Apparently there is some opposition to the draft legislation that I proposed but the public needs to know why! The draft is designed to help our government more with revenues than private business until marijuana is decriminalized by the feds. Marijuana use is not fully ready to be handed over to the private sector because it is still illegal under federal law and it can't be fully controlled in the private sector as proven with the sale of all kinds of "unrated" marijuana products and private dispensaries who caused the only federal intervention in Colorado when the state's own marijuana laws were being violated. As bad as the government is about conducting business, it is still the best shelter for controlling and creating a marijuana industry at this point. I can tell that those against the draft are more concerned with killing my draft and their own ability to make money than helping our government and all of us. I even warned the group that their quest for personal wealth over doing what is best for the people would put us on a collision course and even derail any hopes for legalization.

FYI, there is a plethora of support throughout the CNMI for legalization, especially among the young voters and there is an enormous support in the state of Washington, Oregon and Idaho. I have talked to many of those here and on the mainland and many, especially our young voters, even moved to Washington state in part because of legalization. We are not only missing out on revenues, we are literally

chasing our own people away. Today Washington State is believed to have more locals than any other state!

The reason there is no public support locally is because there is no public leader who is leading on the issue. I have learned that more than anything people want to be winners and don't want to waste their time or their vote. So if the issue is leaderless and doesn't look like it can win, they can't and will not follow regardless of the merits and even the need for change. There is also the fact that most of the people do not want to go public with their support for the obvious reason of it being a controversial change. But I feel extremely confident that if the people were ever given a chance to vote on the issue it would indeed pass.

I have done more than anyone to promote the issue of legalization and all I am getting is complaints by those who want legalization their way. I begged this group to work with me but we all know what greed can do. Trashing my draft when they haven't even done the work to create their own and putting the issue down certainly didn't help the group nor the people with the issue. They just created more controversy with no solution as usual. FYI, a draft by its very nature is not final but a starting point and the best thing that anyone can do is to work collaboratively and improve on it so everyone will be happy. Guam and the rest of America are leaving us in their wake of new revenues from legalization and complaining and put-

ting me down is not going to catch us up to the rest of America.

Four states have full legalization and our nation's capital along with medical use in 27 other states and more states are lining up. The momentum and support is growing. The CNMI just needs an elected official with the fortitude and wisdom to see we can earn hundreds of millions like other states without harming our society. I can only pray that one day the group will get it that "One People, One Direction" means we can create real synergy with real progress if we learn to compromise and we work together. Locals know the concept as in *afa'molic!*

P.S.: Please read the draft legislation before passing judgment and please note that the government will "partner" with many private growers (over 100) in the draft so there is a big potential for those in the private sector to become millionaires even though the government will be the primary recipient of the revenues. In fact, the legislation is a scientific approach to legalization, unlike in other states as it is a designed "experiment" so we can adapt, change and fix our legalization laws to best control and serve the people and our government. The basic foundation and philosophy of the legislation that I proposed is actually better and more controlling than any of the existing state laws that legalized marijuana. Given that I have already begun the process, all we need is a political leader to champion the issue by sponsoring the draft legislation so the Legislature can fix it to make legalization a reality or we are going to miss out on hundreds of millions of dollars!

Ambrose M Bennett
Kagman, Saipan



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For more information please contact 235-6527/28 ask for Puy or Jeremy

880 Duty Free celebrates first year with luxury sale

To celebrate its milestone first anniversary 880 Duty Free will have a monthlong program of sales for their high-end luxury brands.

The store is conveniently located on the ground floor of Kanoa Resort in Chalan Kanoa. The sale will last from Jan. 24 to Feb. 28, with special luxury items up to 35 percent off, and women's apparel up to 50 percent off.

Along with these great discounts, the store will also have giveaways for all buyers. On top of that, customers who buy two pairs of Skechers shoes will get one Havaianas item free.

"As in all businesses, the challenges that the 880 team went through this year made us better," 880's Sadrina Yao told *Saipan Tribune*. "I'm very proud of what we've accomplished, and sales are on an upward trend! The climb is slow and steady, but the market is becoming our friend. Not only tourists but many of the good people of the CNMI are now frequenting the store. This shows that everyone can appreciate our convenient location and the value we provide, even on luxury items."

Chloe, Burberry, Dunhill, Prada, Tommy Bahama, Michael Kors, Tory Burch and Skechers are brands that have consistently done well for the store throughout the year. All of these top brands will be a part of their anniversary sale

this year, Yao said.

To complement these top brands is Becca—a popular make-up brand—that the store brought in last month.

Yao said this make-up brand—renowned internationally and famous for its chic flagship store in London—has been doing "awesomely" since they first brought it in.

This cosmetics brand features a line of complexion-perfecting base products, as well as lush, perfectly pigmented enhancement products—whose goals are to make every woman's skin as fresh, clear and naturally radiant as possible.

Proenza Schouler, another top brand, will also be hitting their shelves soon.

"Luxury is an important department for us and I'm very excited to share we are bringing in Proenza Schouler, a Manhattan-based designer duo, into the mix for 2015," Yao said.

Proenza Schouler, described as a new player in industry, has been electrifying the fashion scene with their coveted bags for women that can be worn on glamorous occasions as well as every day.

You can't miss these items. Most of the brands that grace 880's shelves are fresh, authentic, trend-right and great U.S. brands.

They are also sold at 880's gift shop branches—called iShop—in Kanoa Resort and



Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, with a new branch possibly opening soon at "Let's Go" in Lower Base.

For Yao, their first year can be described as a lot of tweaking and improving on their assortment these last 12 months of operations.

But they continue to strive for a better product, she said, getting much appreciated feedback from both tourists and local clientele.

"We're pleased to offer a service that is so appreciated by our guests and neighbors," she said. "And we look forward to another great year!"

Congratulations

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The 880 Duty Free team.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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880 DUTY FREE

on your **First Anniversary**

From the management & staff of: **Saipan Tribune**
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Food stamp office holds customer service training

The Department of Community & Cultural Affairs' Nutrition Assistance Program held its 2nd Annual Professional Development Training for NAP staff on Jan. 16, 2015, at the Pacific Islands Club.

The training focused on the areas of problem solving; diversity-servicing multi-cultural recipient base for results; stress and time management with tips to handle stress; and customer service excellence and team building.

Jim Arenovski from Island Training Solutions facilitated the training.

According to NAP administrator Walter Macaranas, the training was an engaging and beneficial learning experience for the participants. The agen-

da was designed to enhance customer service efficiency and positive work and service attitudes.

In line with DCCA's goals and objectives, NAP continues to look for and implement ways to improve government services, especially in areas of services in which families seek supplemental assistance to put food on the table. **(DCCA)**

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jim Arenovski of Island Training Solutions, standing center, and Nutrition Assistance Program administrator Walter Macaranas, standing right, are joined by NAP staff after the 2nd Annual Professional Development Training on Jan. 16, 2015, at the Pacific Islands Club.



Guam Guard gets new adjutant general

WASHINGTON, D.C. —Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo issued the following statement yesterday on the selection of Col. Roderick R. Leon Guerrero as the next Adjutant General of the Guam National Guard.

"I congratulate Col. Roderick R. Leon Guerrero on his selection as the next Adjutant General of the Guam National Guard. I have worked closely with Col. Leon Guerrero over the years, and I am confident that

his institutional knowledge and leadership will serve the Guam National Guard well over the coming years. Gov. Calvo had a large pool of qualified officers to choose from to lead the Guam National Guard because of the efforts of MG Donald Goldhorn to develop future leaders. He was able to develop this pool of future leaders, in part, because of the Guard Empowerment legislation that I supported.

"Additionally, I extend my

sincere appreciation to Maj. Gen. Benny Paulino for his years of service to our island and nation. Major. Gen. Paulino has been an invaluable partner in support of our Guard members. During his most recent time as TAG, he oversaw the largest deployment of Guam guardsmen in the history of the Guam National Guard to support of Operation Enduring Freedom. I wish him the best in his retirement." **(Office of the Delegate)**

Did you know that it's sea turtle nesting season again?

Mother turtles need your help during their maternal NMI visit. Please don't hunt turtles when they are most vulnerable. Please do leave their eggs to hatch. Let our turtles live another day to lay!

To report sick, injured, or dead turtles, please call our stranding hotline at **287-8537 (CTR-TLES)** or DFW Enforcement at **989-6092**. CNMI turtles are a shared community resource connecting our people's past with our people's future. Help us to conserve sea turtles so future generations may be able to enjoy them also.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for **PROCUREMENT AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) RUNWAY VACUUM SWEEPER** to the FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, SAIPAN, COMMONWEALTH OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP No. 3-69-0002-80, will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, PO Box 501055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Procurement and Delivery of One (1) Runway Vacuum Sweeper to the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0002-80", and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2015**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general, consists of the procurement and delivery of one (1) brand new manually operated runway vacuum sweeper for the Saipan International Airport designed especially for use in cleaning pavements to remove debris, dirt and dust from routed cracks of the pavement, all in accordance with the specifications.

A CD-Rom containing the contract documents including specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)** for each set of documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The procurement is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for procurement and delivery in its entirety shall be **THREE HUNDRED (300) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages of **FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$500.00)** shall be assessed the awarded bidder for each calendar day the completion of the delivery is delayed beyond the completion date without excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, **10:00 AM, FRIDAY, February 13, 2015**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 60-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal.

Each bidder must complete, sign, and furnish the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities", and the "Assurance of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises Participation", and all other required forms and information as required, stipulated and contained in the bid proposal documents and specifications, with the submission of the Bid Proposal.

The proposed agreement is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) and Federal Labor provisions.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Affirmative Action and Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension.

The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A bidder having 50 or more employees and any subcontractor having 50 or more employees and who may be awarded a contract of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) or more, will be required to maintain an affirmative action program, the standards for which are contained in the specifications. To be eligible for award, each bidder must comply with the affirmative action requirements.

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award of any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement.

Women will be afforded equal opportunity in all areas of employment. However, the employment of women shall not diminish the standards or requirements for employment of minorities.

The proposed contract is under and subject to the foreign trade restrictions required by 49 CFR Part 30, Denial of Public Works Contracts to Supplier of Goods and Services of Countries that Deny Procurement Market Access to U.S. Contractors.

The Aviation Safety and Capacity Expansion Act of 1990 provides that preference be given to steel and manufactured products produced in the United States when funds are expended pursuant to a grant issued under the Airport Improvement Program.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ
Acting Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer
Date: January 20, 2015

Non-profit groups invited to apply for grant funding

Through a technical assistance grant from the Office of Insular Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior, funding is being made available to support the CNMI Economic and Labor Enhancement Program through the Department of Commerce. Interested non-profit chartered organization applicants within the CNMI are encouraged to submit a proposal for the programs below.

Available program funding

■ Tourism Hospitality enhancement Program (\$50,000);

■ Agriculture and Aquaculture Enhancement Program (\$40,000)

The Technical Assistance grant funds are intended to provide eligible applicants the opportunity to provide trainings, which are nationally, and/or industry recognized in a profession relevant to the needs of the CNMI's employment sectors. All trainings must result in participants being able to test for and/or attain program certifications.

Eligible applicant organizations must be licensed non-profit chartered organization with a demonstrated and documented history of providing nationally and/or industry recognized trainings, which result in the ability for participants to test for and/or attain certification specific to the industry for which they are being trained.

All training participants must be United States eligible work-

ers (U.S. citizens, FAS citizens, and green card holders). Grant funds may not be used to supplement salaries for trainees, as well as be used by local government entities, private entities and non-profit employees. Grant funds may be used for professional services, training, advertisements, printing and photocopying.

Proposal criteria

There is no required format for which submission must adhere to. Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

■ Relevance of training to the needs of the CNMI's employment sector;

■ Experience of organization in delivery of training that result in a nationally and/or industry recognized certification;

■ Proposed time frame for training completion; and

■ References and/or third-party objective evidence as to the experience and/or quality of the applicant organizations capacity to meet the goals established by the program;

In coordination with CREES, focus must be on training to increase technically trained United States eligible workers to operate farms and aquaculture projects such as animal husbandry, entomology, plant cultivation and aqua-

culture technicians.

Eligible applicants

Eligible applicants are limited to chartered non-profit organizations established prior to the submission of proposals. Individuals, private for-profit entities and government entities are ineligible to receive funding.

Submission deadline

The submission deadline for proposals by eligible applicant organizations is Feb. 9, 2015, at 4pm. Submissions must be stamped received by the CNMI Department of Commerce Office of the Secretary, attention: Acting Secretary Mark O. Rabauliman,

Pohnpei Street, Capital Hill. Submitted proposals and applications of five sets are required (one original and four copies).

Decision timeframe

Decisions on funding for submitted proposals are subject to availability of funds. The TA sub-grant committee will review the submitted proposals on Feb. 10, 2015, and notify applicant organizations no later than Feb. 13, 2015, by 4pm. Applicant organizations will be notified on Feb. 13, 2015, via phone call and followed by an official correspondence utilizing the contact information listed on proposal submissions. *(Office of the Governor)*



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BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy 1st birthday to Uzaiah Zade Sablan Ada, who is celebrating his special day on Sunday! May God continue to guide you through good health and many more birthdays to come. We love you and God bless!

Greetings come from the family.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Advanced happy birthday to the handsome Uzaiah Zade, who will be celebrating his special day on Sunday, Jan. 25! Hope you have a wonderful day. Love you! Greetings come from Auntie Mariah and Uncle David.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to Igor from family and friends! It's a joy to congratulate you since you're such a kind and sociable person! It's great having you around. Have a merry celebration! Best wishes.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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Business

Retired Gen. Shinseki is elected to FHB board

HAGÂTÑA, Guam—Retired U.S. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki has been elected to the board of directors of First Hawaiian Bank. He previously served on the bank's board from 2006 to 2008.

"We are proud to welcome General Shinseki back to our *ohana*. He is a man of great integrity and character who has dedicated his entire career to serving our nation," said Bob Harrison, First Hawaiian Bank

chairman, president and CEO.

Born on the island of Kauai, Shinseki is the first person of Asian ancestry to lead one of the American military service branches. He retired from the U.S. Army in August 2003 after

a distinguished 38-year military career capped by four years, 1999-2003, as Chief of Staff, the top uniformed position in the Army. In 2008, President Obama nominated him to be the 7th U.S. Secretary of The Department of

Veterans Affairs where he served for more than five years.

Shinseki graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and holds a master's degree in English Literature from Duke University. He has received numerous honors and decorations for his leadership and courage including the U.S.

Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

First Hawaiian Bank with \$18.1 billion in assets was founded in 1858 and is Hawaii's oldest and largest bank. It has 57 branches in Hawaii, three on Guam and two on Saipan. **(FHB)**

United to serve premium-cabin dining experience on North America flights

CHICAGO—United Airlines will treat premium-cabin customers on flights within North America to a brand new dining experience beginning Feb. 1, when the airline elevates everything from entrées to desserts and lighter snacks for United First and United Business customers.

Additionally, United will expand North America premium-cabin meal service to include flights of at least 800 miles—or as short as two hours and 20 minutes—increasing the number of flights on which customers may enjoy meals. The airline will also offer a greater variety of dining choices.

These changes come as United is making a multi-million-dollar investment in in-flight food service.

Premium-cabin dining changes

Created by United's team of chefs and inspired by cuisine in the airline's hub cities and

other popular North American destinations, United will introduce flavorful new entrées, including cage-free scrambled eggs prepared skillet style with pepper-jack cheese, sautéed pepper mix, sliced New Mexico sausage, potato gratin and fire-roasted pepper sauce; lobster macaroni and cheese with a baked crumb topping and side of broccoli rabe; and chicken and sausage jambalaya with white rice and green onions.

Other changes include:

■ For short flights that offer lighter refreshments, the addition of new breakfast breads in the morning and a rotation of 25 new premium snacks in the afternoon and evening;

■ On meal flights less than four hours, a variety of enhanced breakfast choices, such as French toast soufflé or steel-cut oatmeal, both paired with fresh fruit and Greek yogurt, plus new dinner selections, in-

cluding tandoori chicken with basmati rice and paneer, to replace the current premium sandwich options;

■ An expanded mid-continental meal service on flights of four hours to five hours and 19 minutes, offering customers who now get two entrée options a choice of three, such as creole shrimp served with Carolina grits, and a dessert of sorbet with mint-leaf topping during lunch or gelato or ice cream for dinner;

■ New multi-course meal service on transcontinental and Hawaii flights, featuring heartier entrées, such as tamales stuffed chicken wrapped in a corn husk and served with creamy corn sauce, roasted red and yellow tomatoes and yucca sticks, followed by sorbet during lunch or gelato or ice cream for dinner; and

■ Signature bake-on-board cookies in customer-chosen flavors, including triple-chocolate chunk, served for dessert on short- and medium-haul flights



that offer meals, or as an afternoon or evening pre-arrival treat on transcontinental flights and flights that link Hawaii with Los Angeles, San Francisco, Denver and Houston.

United will also continue to offer premium-cabin customers Prosecco sparkling wine and—on lunch and dinner flights—the airline's signature warmed nuts.

"Our customers tell us they want greater options and fresh, savory dining choices when they fly with us," said Lynda Coffman, United's vice president of food services. "With these latest

enhancements, we will offer restaurant-quality cuisine that enriches their in-flight experience."

In-flight dining investments

United will continue to make investments in its customers' in-flight dining. Beginning in March and throughout the rest of this year, the company will:

■ Upgrade premium-cabin meal service on United Express flights, replacing snack boxes with freshly prepared food served on chinaware on flights of at least 800 miles—or as

UNITED AIRLINES
The caprese on asiago baguette is one of the new sandwiches United Airlines will introduce in September 2014 in premium cabins on North America flights.

short as two hours and 20 minutes—and offering a selection of premium packaged snacks on flights less than 800 miles;

■ Significantly enhance United Economy meals and beverages on long-haul international flights, including adding multi-course meal service;

■ Refresh its Choice Menu Bistro on Board selection, which offers fresh food for sale in United Economy on most flights scheduled for more than three-and-a-half hours within North America, to Central and northern South America and between Honolulu and Guam; and

■ Launch new premium-cabin menu choices on its p.s. Premium Service between New York JFK and Los Angeles and New York JFK and San Francisco. **(United)**



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165, Saipan MP 96950 • T: (670) 236-9715 • F: (670) 236-9702



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

PRO SE CLIENT SERVICE ASSISTANT

On the island of SAIPAN

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the general supervision of the Presiding Judge of the Commonwealth Superior Court and direct supervision of the Manager of the Family Court or his/her designee. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Assist Pro Se clients when they come to the Family Court Division seeking assistance in filing their case;
- Assist in the development and enhancement of the Family Court Pro Se Court Services program for family violence cases;
- Maintain and promote positive workflow with Victim Advocates and all other agencies involved in the processing and distribution of family protection cases / TRO (FP/TRO);
- Participate in court and special hearings for all family protection cases;
- Assist the courtroom clerks with docketing and scheduling of hearings for FP/TRO and criminal domestic violence cases;
- Assist in the distribution of orders, pleadings and other documents in FP/TRO and criminal domestic violence cases;
- Coordinate and schedule home assessments as well as process referral orders for those court clients referred to social mental health services;
- Conduct interviews of court clients and their families; analyze the information, identify possible problem areas, make recommendations concerning the case, and make referrals to other social service agencies;
- Input case information into the Justware Case Management System and the Lexis Nexus E-filing system;
- Attend the monthly Family Violence Task Force meetings;
- Assist in planning and coordination of domestic violence training conferences;
- Maintain and monitor the Victims of Crime Act formula grant program's goals and objectives which will include the preparation of quarterly reports, compilation of case statistics and processing of purchase requisitions, and;
- Adhere to and comply with all promulgated policies, standards and codes of ethical conduct;
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: The Client Service Coordinator should have High School Diploma or equivalent from an accredited college with an Associate of Arts (AA) degree in social work, criminal justice, or related service, plus one (1) year of experience in clerical, data collection, or similar field. Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. Salary will be \$18,000 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Michelle V. Guerrero
Human Resource/Administrative Officer
Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 236-9818
Fax. (670) 236-9702
michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This job announcement will remain open until filled. Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at <http://www.justice.gov.mp>.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-15-010

WATERLINE REPAIRS FOR LEAK DETECTION, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Waterline Repairs for Leak Detection Project in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity work consists of excavation to verify leaks and perform leak repairs on various types of waterlines and appurtenances. Materials for leak repairs are to be provided by CUC. Payment is only for the items completely installed and accepted by CUC. The duration of the contract is one year (365 calendar days) from date of award with an option to extend for an additional year, contingent upon funding and if exercised by CUC.

This project is funded by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from the US-EPA.

The IFB package (electronic disk file) may be obtained from the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, wire transfer or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one IFB package set. Prospective Bidders for this IFB must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **February 4, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Seven (7) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"Waterline Repairs for Leak Detection, Saipan"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on February 24, 2015**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A *Bid Guarantee* of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A *Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. The award of a contract may be contingent upon the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) approval. If CPUC approval is required, the contract will not be executed by CUC until such approval is provided.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on February 5, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, Purchasing Officer, Procurement & Supply Division, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, Engineer, Water/Wastewater Division via email yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Executive Director,

MANNY B. SABLAN
Manager, Procurement & Supply

Nation

Video shows man shot by New Jersey police raising his hands

BRIDGETON, N.J. (AP)—With the dashboard camera in their cruiser rolling, police pulled a Jaguar over for running a stop sign on a dark night. But things suddenly turned tense when one of the officers warned his partner that he could see a gun in the glove compartment.

Screaming over and over “Don’t you f---ing move!” and “Show me your hands!” at the man in the passenger seat, the officer reached into the car and appeared to remove a silver handgun.

Then, the passenger, despite being warned repeatedly not to move, stepped out of the

Jaguar, his hands raised about shoulder level.

The officers opened fire, killing him.

The video of the Dec. 30 killing of Jerame Reid in Bridgeton, a struggling, mostly minority city of 25,000 people just south of Philadelphia, was released this week,

raising questions and stirring anger over another death at the hands of police.

The nearly two-minute deadly standoff came after the killings of black men in New York and Ferguson, Missouri, triggered months of turbulent protests, violence and calls for a re-examination of police

use of force.

Reid and the man driving the car were black. The Bridgeton officer who spotted the gun, Braheme Days, is black; his partner, Roger Worley, is white. Both officers have been placed on leave while prosecutors investigate.

“The video speaks for itself that at no point was Jerame Reid a threat and he possessed no weapon on his person,” Walter Hudson, chairman and founder of the civil rights group the National Awareness Alliance, said Wednesday. “He complied with the officer and the officer shot him.”

A Philadelphia lawyer, Conrad Benedetto, said he has been hired by Reid’s wife, Lawanda, to investigate. He said in a statement the footage “raises serious questions as to the legality and/or reasonableness of the officers’ actions that night” because Reid was shot as he raised his hands.

Reid, 36, spent about 13 years in prison for shooting at three state troopers when he was a teenager. And Days knew who he was; Days was among the arresting officers last year when Reid was charged with several crimes, including drug possession and

obstruction.

In Bridgeton, where two-thirds of the residents are black or Hispanic, the killing has stirred small protests over the past couple of weeks, including a demonstration on Wednesday, a day after the video was made public at the request of two newspapers under the state’s open records law.

The Cumberland County prosecutor’s office previously said a gun was seized during the stop but would not comment further on the investigation. Bridgeton police would not answer any questions about the video and said they opposed its release as neither “compassionate or professional.”

County prosecutor Jennifer Webb-McRae has disqualified herself from the case because she knows Days. But Lawanda Reid’s lawyer and activists are demanding the state attorney general’s office take over the investigation, something it said it will not do.

In the video, the mood changes in a flash when Days tells his partner about the gun and starts yelling, “Show me your hands!” The driver, Leroy Tutt, raises his hands immediately. Reid does not at first.

ACROSS THE NATION

Nearly 3M gallons of brine spill; ND oil boom’s largest leak

Nearly 3 million gallons of saltwater generated by oil drilling have leaked from a North Dakota pipeline, an official said Wednesday, the largest such spill since the state’s current oil boom began and nearly three times worse than previous record spills. Two creeks have been affected, but the full environmental effect might not be clear for months. Operator Summit Midstream Partners LLC detected the pipeline spill on Jan. 6, about 15 miles north of Williston and told health officials then. Officials say they weren’t given a full account of the size until Tuesday. (AP)

Newtown votes to raze home of gunman in

school massacre

NEWTOWN, Conn. (AP)—Officials in Newtown voted Wednesday night to tear down the home where Adam Lanza lived before he carried out the 2012 massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School. The vote by the Newtown Legislative Council approved a proposal by the board of selectmen to raze the 3,100-square-foot home and keep the land as open space. First Selectwoman Pat Llodra said she expects the Lanza house will be razed once winter is over. The 2-acre property was given to the town in December by a bank that acquired it from the Lanza family.

Kin: Man who killed doctor had blamed him for mother’s death

BOSTON (AP)—A man who walked into a leading hospital,

asked for a cardiac surgeon by name and fatally shot him outside an examination room had been upset about his mother’s death and had blamed the doctor for it, relatives said. Gunman Stephen Pasceri entered Brigham and Women’s Hospital on Tuesday morning seeking Dr. Michael Davidson and then shot him twice, police said. He then killed himself, and officers found his body with the weapon shortly afterward. Pasceri’s sister and brother said Wednesday they were shocked by his actions and believe he held Davidson responsible for the November death of their mother, who had heart and lung problems.

AP source: FBI completes federal probe of Ferguson shooting

WASHINGTON (AP)—The

FBI has completed its investigation into the police shooting of an unarmed, black 18-year-old in Ferguson, Missouri, a U.S. official said Wednesday. The Justice Department has not yet announced whether it will file a federal civil rights charge against former Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson. But officials and experts have said such a prosecution would be highly unlikely, in part because of the extraordinarily high legal standard federal prosecutors would need to meet. Wilson, who is white, was cleared in November by a state grand jury in the Aug. 9 death of Michael Brown, a shooting that touched off protests in the streets and became part of a national conversation about race relations and police departments that patrol minority neighborhoods.



A Northern Mariana Islands Social Service

Request for Proposal For Financial Audit

Karidat Social Services is soliciting competitive sealed proposals to perform a financial and compliance audit on its records for fiscal years ending September 30, 2014, 2015, and 2016. The audit will be performed in compliance with the generally accepted auditing standards. The proposal must be submitted to Karidat’s Office on Chalan Kanoa Drive or mailed to Karidat Social Services, P.O. Box 500745, Saipan, MP 96950 by January 30, 2015, 4:30 pm.

I. Contents of Proposal: The following information must be included in the Audit Proposal:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| A. Title Page Containing: | |
| 1. RFP Subject | 5. Email address |
| 2. Name of the Firm | 6. Name of Contact Person |
| 3. Local Address | 7. Submission Date |
| 4. Telephone Number(s) | |

II. Transmittal Letter:

A Brief statement of your understanding of the work to be performed and an affirmative statement to perform work within the time period stipulated.
State all inclusive fee for which the audit will be performed,

III. Firm Profile:

Provide a brief description of your firm’s personnel education background and experience, number of staff, staff level (partner, manager, supervisor, etc.) and listings of clients serviced. The firm must make an affirmative statement that at least the partners are Certified Public Accountants (CPAs).

IV. Proposals Evaluation Criteria: The proposal will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria.

- A. Responsiveness of the proposal in clearly stating understanding of the work to be performed.
 1. Audit coverage
 2. Overall estimates as well as the time estimates for each major section of the work to be performed.
- B. Qualifications and experience of the firm.
 1. Size and structure of the firm
 2. Ability to maintain continuity of project
 3. Experience of the firm in auditing Federal Financial Assistance programs and Non-Profit Organizations
- C. Qualification and experience of staff to be assigned: education, position in the firm, number of years, and types of experience will be considered.
 1. Qualifications of the audit team
 2. Supervision to be exercised over the firm’s audit team
- D. Audit Fee

V. Audit Administration Matters:

- A. Karidat staff will prepare schedule as required by the Auditor.
- B. Audit Planning Meetings, interim conferences and exit conference may be attended by the following officials.
 1. Karidat’s Board of Directors, the Executive Director, Accountants, and the Administrative Officer.
- C. Karidat will issue the Contract Award on February 16, 2015.
- D. The audit field work must be completed by April 17, 2015.
- E. The draft audit report must be completed by May 15, 2015.
- F. The Final Audit Report will be transmitted on June 01, 2015.

Confidentiality of Audit Proposals: All audit proposals will be reviewed in a confidential manner. Proposals must be labeled “CONFIDENTIAL” and transmitted to the Executive Director, Karidat Social Services, P. O. Box 500745, Saipan, MP 96950. It may also be hand delivered to Karidat Office located on Chalan Kanoa Drive.

Sincerely,
/s/ Angie V. De Leon Guerrero
Executive Director

Public Participation Requirement CNMI Public School System

Early Intervention Program and Special Education Program

Pursuant to Part B and Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act 2004, & GEPA, the Public School System Special Education Program and Early Intervention Program are required to provide at least 60 days prior to submission of grant applications for funds, a 60 day circulation notice with an opportunity for public comment on the application for at least 30 days during that period and provide an opportunity for the general public, including individuals with disabilities and parents of infants, toddlers and youth with disabilities, to provide comments.

Part C – Early Intervention Program

60 Day Public Circulation Period: January 26, 2015 thru March 6, 2015
30 Day Public Comment Period: February 02, 2015 thru March 3, 2015

Part B – Special Education Program

60 Day Public Circulation Period: February 2, 2015 thru April 2, 2015
30 Day Public Comment Period: March 2, 2015 thru March 31, 2015

Hard copies of the Grant Applications are available from Monday-Friday, 8:00am-4:00pm at the following locations:

Office of Special Education Programs, PSS in Susupe-237-3029
Children’s Development Assistance Center (CDAC) in Garapan 664-4841

You may also access the Grant Applications on the PSS Website:
www.cnmpss.org/state-level-programs/curriculum-instruction/assessment/special-education-early-intervention-program/grant-applications

Comments may be submitted by fax to (670) 664-3774, hand delivered to the Office of Special Education Program located on the 2nd floor PSS Central Bldg., Susupe, or phone your comments into

Special Education Program: 237-3029
Children’s Dev. Assistance Center: 664-4841

For more information, please contact Ms. Suzanne W. Lizama, Director, Special Education Program at 237-3029, Robin L. Palacios, Interim Coordinator, Early Intervention Program at 664-4841.

Asia

Macau ranks No. 1 in economic performance among 300 cities

WASHINGTON (AP)—Macau, the Chinese territory known for casino gambling, outperformed the rest of the world's major cities economically last year, according to a report out Thursday.

Cities in the developing world, especially China, dominated the top of the annual economic rankings of 300 cities worldwide by the Brookings Institution and JPMorgan Chase. One exception: Bangkok, Thailand, came in last, its economy wrecked by political strife.

Macau has enjoyed a tourism boom, with gamblers coming to bet at more than 30 casinos, including the Venetian Macao, the world's largest.

Cities in wealthy, developed countries tended to lag behind. Though most of the cities surveyed around the world have recovered from the Great Recession, 65 percent of European and 57 percent of North American cities have not, according to the study, which ranks cities by growth in employment and in economic output per person. Some highlights:

BIG DIFFERENCES

Joseph Parilla, a Brookings research analyst who co-wrote the report, said he was surprised by the "incredible differentiation within what are considered monolithic economic blocs." Latin American cities, for instance, mostly sputtered. But Medellin, Colombia, and Lima, Peru, both broke into the top 50.

Cities in wealthy countries tended to perform poorly. But U.S. and British cities showed improvement. Three U.S. cities—Austin and Houston, Texas, and Raleigh, North Carolina—cracked the top 50. In the United Kingdom, London came in No. 26, Manchester No. 60.

The United States and Britain have begun to pick up economic momentum 5 1/2 years after the recession ended.

"In developed economies like North America and Western Europe, cities like London and Houston are flying high, while others like Rotterdam and Mon-



AP
In this photo taken Nov. 23, 2014, People walk across a road in front of the Venetian Macao casino resorts in Macau.

tre are struggling," Parilla said.

INSIDE CHINA

Twenty-seven of the 50 top-performing cities were Chinese. Increasingly, strong growth occurred in the traditionally underdeveloped cities of China's interior, rather than its booming coastal cities. Land-locked Changsha, for instance, enjoyed economic growth per person of 8.6 percent last year and wound up No. 15 in the overall rankings.

The coastal manufacturing powerhouse of Dongguan, next door to Hong Kong, registered per-capita economic growth of just 5.2 percent (unimpressive by Chinese standards) and finished No. 70. Companies have begun to move inland as the cost of labor and land rises on the Chinese coast. And the Chinese government has invested heavily on infrastructure in the interior.

COMMODITIES BOOM

The 18 cities worldwide that specialized in producing commodities such as oil registered the highest rates of growth in economic output per person (2.6 percent) and employment (1.9 percent).

"The recent rise in oil and gas production in North America partly explains the success of metropolitan areas like Calgary, Denver, Houston, and Tulsa, which are epicenters of the region's shale revolution," the report said.

Next year's rankings may be different. Oil prices have plunged to less than \$48 a barrel from \$107 a barrel last June, jeopardizing the prospects of cities that had been riding the energy boom.

TURKISH DELIGHT

Four Turkish cities made the top 10: Izmir, Istanbul, Bursa and Ankara. Turkish cities boomed last year despite political unrest. "If you look at world headlines, Turkey is not in the news for its economic success, but it probably should be," Brookings' Parilla says. "It has pretty solid macroeconomic policies."

Turkey benefits from its location at the boundary between Europe and Asia and from heavy investment in roads and other infrastructure projects, which creates jobs over the short term and is likely to make the economy more efficient over the long term.

Japan looking at all possible ways to free hostages

TOKYO (AP)—Japan said Thursday it was considering any and all possible ways to seek the release of two hostages held by the Islamic State group.

The Islamic State group, in a video message, said it would kill the hostages within 72 hours unless it receives \$200 million. Based on the video's release time, that deadline would come sometime Friday.

Government spokesman Yoshihide Suga said Thursday that Japan was trying any and all ways to reach those holding the

hostages, but had not received any message from IS since the release of the video.

Ko Nakata, an expert on Islamic law and former professor at Kyoto's Doshisha University, told reporters he was able to reach the Islamic State.

"I myself am willing to go to negotiate," Nakata said.

Asked if Japan would consider that offer, Suga said Tokyo was "prepared to consider all possible ways to save the two hostages," 47-year-old freelance journalist Kenji Goto and 42-year-old

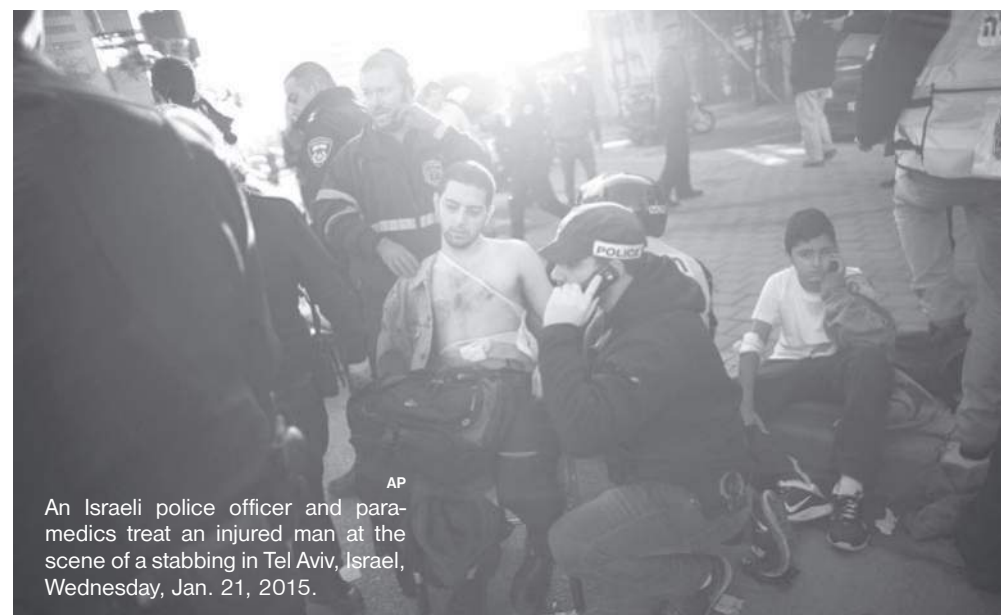
Haruna Yukawa, the founder of a private security company.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, who returned from a six-day Middle East tour on Wednesday, vowed not to give in to terrorism, and to continue to cooperate on providing humanitarian aid to those affected by conflict in the region.

Abe and other Japanese officials have not said directly whether Japan will pay ransom for the captives—a decision fraught with implications both for Japan and other countries.

World

11 wounded by Palestinian in Israeli bus attack in Tel Aviv



AP
An Israeli police officer and paramedics treat an injured man at the scene of a stabbing in Tel Aviv, Israel, Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2015.

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP)—A knife-wielding Palestinian stabbed 11 morning commuters on and near a bus Wednesday, striking in the heart of Tel Aviv and reigniting fears of continued violence ahead of Israeli elections in March.

The attack was the latest in a spate of Palestinian attacks against Israelis over recent months, which has been largely reserved to Jerusalem but also has spilled over to the West Bank and Tel Aviv.

Tuesday's stabbing took place near a busy intersection during morning rush hour. Police identified the attacker as Hamza Mohammed Matrouk, 23, from the West Bank town of Tulkarem. Police said Matrouk confessed to the attack, saying this summer's Gaza war, tensions surrounding a Jerusalem site holy to Jews and Muslims and extremist Islamic videos promising him an "arrival to heaven" fueled the violence.

Gaza's ruling Hamas praised the attack, calling it "brave and heroic," but did not claim

responsibility. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu blamed Palestinian incitement for the ongoing bloodshed.

Police and witnesses said Matrouk was riding on the bus when he began stabbing passengers and the driver. He fled the bus but was chased down and shot by prison service officers nearby. They shot Matrouk in the leg and arrested him.

The bus driver, Herzl Biton, was stabbed in the upper body and liver and underwent surgery, his niece Cheli Shushan said. Witnesses said Biton used pepper spray to deter the attacker and slammed on the brakes to jar him. After being stabbed, Biton flung open the doors to allow passengers to flee.

At the scene of the attack, a Jewish head covering lay beside headphones on the floor of the bus, with blood splattered nearby.

Video aired by Israeli television station Channel 10 showed Matrouk running down the street and stabbing a woman in the back as he tried to escape.

The violence comes weeks



ahead of March 17 elections, in which Netanyahu, a security hawk, is facing a challenge from a joint list headed by Isaac Herzog and Tzipi Livni, who support negotiations with the Palestinians. The continued violence could sway votes in Netanyahu's favor.

The attack sparked heated rhetoric ahead of the polls, with Herzog blaming Netanyahu for a "strong lack of personal security" among Israelis.

Shiite rebels, Yemen's president reach deal to end standoff

SANAA, Yemen (AP)—Shiite rebels holding Yemen's president captive in his home reached a deal with the U.S.-backed leader Wednesday to end a violent standoff in the capital, fueling fears that a key ally in the battle against al-Qaida has been sidelined.

The late-night agreement, which promises the rebels greater say in running the Arab world's poorest nation in exchange for removing its fighters from President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi's residence and key areas of the capital, left unclear who really controls the country.

In the deal, carried on the official SABA news agency, the Houthi rebels also agreed to release a top aide to Hadi that they had kidnapped in recent days.

The Houthis, who seized

control of the capital and many state institutions in September, say they only want an equal share of power. Critics say they want to retain Hadi as president in name only, while keeping an iron grip on power.

The power vacuum has raised fears Yemen's al-Qaida's branch, which claimed the recent attack on a French satirical weekly and is considered by Washington to be the terror group's most dangerous affiliate, will only grow more powerful as Yemen slides toward fragmentation and the conflict takes on an increasingly sectarian tone. The Shiite Houthis and Sunni terror group are sworn enemies.

After days of violent clashes and the seizure of the presidential palace, aides to Hadi said early Wednesday that he

was "captive" in his home after Houthi rebels removed his guards and deployed their own fighters.

Soon after the agreement Wednesday night, there was no visible change in Houthi deployment outside Hadi's house.

While Wednesday's deal stopped short of asserting a Houthi takeover of government, analysts said the Shiite rebels had become Yemen's de facto ruling power.

"The Houthis are in effective control," said Jamal Khashoggi, a Saudi columnist and observer of Yemen's affairs. "Even if Hadi agrees to stay president, he no longer controls Yemen and can't give orders. ... The fear is the country will be dragged toward division and infighting."

Off The Wall

High school coach charged with biting another coach in face

MARIETTA, Ga. (AP)—A high school coach in suburban Atlanta is accused of biting another coach’s face, though her attorney says the attack never happened.

South Cobb High School girls basketball coach Melonie Joyce Martin was standing about two inches from Coach Tyrone Harris when authorities say she bit him in the eye and nose, according to an arrest warrant.

Martin has denied the allegations, her attorney, S. Carlton Rouse, told WSB-TV.

“Since the incident, Ms. Martin consistently denied touching (the coach) and certainly never threatened his safety,” Rouse

said in an email, the Atlanta station reported.

The confrontation happened inside a school office Jan. 9, after the South Cobb girls team lost to Campbell High School, authorities said.

Martin also is accused of throwing a chair and telling Harris she would stomp him and knock his teeth out, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported.

Martin was charged with terroristic threats and acts, and simple battery. She intends to vigorously fight the charges, her attorney said.

“While she would like to respond in great detail revealing

(the victim’s) true motivation for making such a sensational claim, based upon the advice of counsel, she must respect legal process and will introduce facts at the appropriate time in court,” Rouse wrote.

School officials have not released information on her status as a coach, WSB reported.

Eating while driving: Man’s burger gets him a traffic ticket

MARIETTA, Ga. (AP)—A man says enjoying a double quarter-pounder with cheese as he cruised down a highway outside Atlanta got him in trouble with the law—and a ticket for eating while driving.

Madison Turner of Alabama told WSB-TV that the officer told him three times: “You can’t just go down the road eating a hamburger.” He was ticketed for violating Georgia’s distracted driving law; Turner said the officer told him he had been eating the McDonald’s burger for about 2 miles.

“Maybe I was enjoying the burger too much; I needed to tone it down. I was certainly willing to do so, but I didn’t expect to be fined or punished,” Turner told the Atlanta station (<http://bit.ly/1819eEp>).

In an email to The Associat-

ed Press early Tuesday, Cobb County police spokesman Mike Bowman said the department would not comment about the case.

William Head, a longtime traffic lawyer who is not representing Turner, said he doesn’t recall seeing a case quite like this one.

Georgia’s distracted driver law does not mention food. It says only that drivers can’t engage in actions that distract them from operating a vehicle safely.

“Maybe if you had a giant pizza in both hands and you weren’t holding the wheel, or maybe if you had a watermelon—half watermelon—and you were just diving into it holding it with both hands, maybe that would be something,” Head said.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Man who used dumbbell in jewelry store break-ins gets prison

SALEM, Mass. (AP)—A Massachusetts man dubbed a “one-man crime wave” by police has been sentenced to up to nine years in prison for using a dumbbell in three smash-and-grab burglaries at jewelry stores. James Jay Radler was sentenced Tuesday for two break-ins at Desjardins Jewelers in Beverly and one at Long’s Jewelers in Peabody. The burglaries occurred in late 2012 and early 2013. Authorities say the 52-year-old Beverly man used a dumbbell from a set of weights to smash his way into the stores and grab jewelry from display cases. The Salem News reports he was tracked by the DNA in the blood he left behind at one burglary. He also pawned stolen items using his own name. In one burglary, he got away with \$24,000 worth of jewelry.

Woman charged with robbing store while toddler was in cab

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP)—Police say a woman took a cab to and from a convenience store robbery and left her 1-year-old daughter in the vehicle during the crime. Delaware State Police say the robbery happened about 3:25 a.m. Tuesday at a Wawa in Wilmington. Troopers say a woman indicated she had a handgun and demanded money from a clerk. Police say the clerk gave the woman money, and the suspect fled in a yellow minivan cab. Officers found the taxi and the driver, who did not know what had happened in the Wawa. The driver told police where he had dropped the woman off. Troopers arrested 29-year-old Amanda Paoletti. Police say her 1-year-old daughter had been in the cab during the robbery. Paoletti was charged with robbery and endangering the welfare of a child.

Irish grandma busted for possessing cocaine at bingo hall

DUBLIN (AP)—Helen Heaphy’s number came up at the bingo hall. The prize was a trip to court. The 50-year-old grandmother pleaded guilty Wednesday to two counts of possessing cocaine for sale or supply after Irish police caught her with the narcotic outside

a Cork bingo hall. Cork District Court Judge Leo Malone accepted her lawyer’s plea for clemency citing her family obligations and her possession of a relatively small amount of the drug worth 350 euros (\$400). Heaphy insisted she was holding the cocaine for an unspecified friend. Malone fined Heaphy 750 euros (\$870) but gave her no jail time, despite having two prior convictions for drugs possession and obstructing a police narcotics unit. She even was allowed to go back to playing bingo at the hall after the owner relented.

Barking dog alerts family to fire at California home

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP)—A family of seven who was sleeping when a fire consumed their Southern California home says they escaped unscathed thanks to their barking dog. Vera Mendez says Foxy, her 2-year-old mixed breed dog, began barking “like crazy” shortly before 2 a.m. Wednesday. Mendez’s son woke up, and he rushed to wake up the rest of the family as flames tore through three rooms of the home in Santa Ana. Mendez tells City News Service that three generations of the family—six adults and a 9-year-old boy—got out of the burning house safely because of Foxy. Nearly 50 firefighters knocked down the fire in about a half-hour but were not able to save the house. The cause of the blaze is under investigation.

Fleeing suspect drives right into Ohio prison’s parking lot

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP)—Police in Ohio say a Michigan man who drove away from a traffic stop smashed through a gate and landed right in a prison parking lot. Officers arrested the man early Wednesday after he drove around the outside of the Toledo Correctional Institution and then back into parking lot. Court records show that the charges against Jason Davis of Monroe, Michigan, include vandalism of government property, drug possession and failing to use his turn signal. Police tell The Blade newspaper in Toledo that they were able to arrest Davis after his vehicle ran over stop sticks that deflated his tires. Court records do not indicate if Davis has an attorney. A telephone call to his home was not answered. The 33-year-old is due in court Thursday.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

AIRPORT OPERATIONS AREA (AOA) OFFICE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-001-15
DESIGN-BUILD SERVICES
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting for sealed proposals for the construction of a new office for the Airport Operation Area (AOA) department at the Freixas H. Ada/Saipan International Airport. The work shall include all materials, labor and equipment necessary to achieve a finished product, including but not limited to the items in the scope of work and those shown on the layout.

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: **“Proposal for the Construction of AOA Office – Design/Build Services”**. One original and four (4) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than **4:30 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2015**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The proposer shall submit with their proposal the following:

1. Letter of Interest;
2. Project Approach;
3. D-B Construction Team;
4. Related past project performance (include commendations or certifications, if available);
5. Available resources to accomplish the project;
6. Cost proposal (in itemized SOW format); and
7. Valid CNMI Business License.

Proposers shall also with their proposal a statement of qualifications which should include résumés and experience of personnel that will be directly in charge of the project. Note that either party of the design consultant/contractor team that submits a proposal cannot submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different design/build teams.

A site visit may be requested by each proposer and will be coordinated with the AOA personnel.

The Scope of Work (SOW) and layout may be picked up at the CPA Administration Office at no cost. Project approach and cost must be within the parameters of the established SOW. Any deviation from the SOW, a proposal based on reduced SOW or a proposal that exceeded what is required by the SOW, will be grounds for immediate disqualification of the offeror’s proposal package.

All responses to this RFP shall take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for the project, including excise tax.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 40-50-225. Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Total cost for design and construction	45%
2. Qualifications of the principal(s) and assigned staff	25%
3. Experience of the firm on similar or related projects	20%
4. Project Approach	10%

The Project is being financed by funds from the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within thirty (30) calendar days from the receipt of proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for forty-five (45) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals.


Each proposal shall be accompanied by a proposal bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Upon award, contractor shall execute performance and payment bonds for 100% of the contract amount from a CPA approved surety prior to commencement of work.

The contract period for design and construction is stated in the scope of work. Liquidated damages of \$500.00 shall be assessed the contractor for each calendar day the completion of the project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without excuse.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA.


CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
/s/ THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ
Acting Board Chairman/Contracting Officer
Date: January 16, 2015



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131



PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1 CMC §9901 et seq), the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (“CUC”) Board of Directors hereby informs the general public that the Board will hold its regular board meeting beginning on Tuesday, January 27, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. It is anticipated that the meeting will move directly into Executive Session and that the regular board meeting will then reconvene on Wednesday, January 28, 2015, at 9:00 a.m. The meetings will be held at the CUC Conference Room, Room 17, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building. The following agenda will be considered and public attendance is welcome.

AGENDA

Tuesday, January 27, 2015 @ 9:00 A.M.

I.

Preliminary Matters
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda

II.

EXECUTIVE SESSION *
A. Discussion of various confidential, legal, and personnel matters.

Wednesday, January 28, 2015 @ 9:00 A.M.

III.

Preliminary Matters (Continued)
A. Reconvene Regular Meeting
B. Adoption of Minutes - December 18, 2014 Meeting
C. Correspondence

IV.

Public Comments**

V.

Management Reports
A. Presentation and Update - Power Generation
B. Presentation and Update - T&D Matters
C. Pending Items

VI.

Board Reports


VII.

Miscellaneous Administrative Matters/New Business

VIII.

Adjournment

* Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board of Directors may vote to meet in executive session at any time.
** Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.



PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN


NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Hafa Adai from PIC Saipan,

With high occupancy expected at PIC Saipan until the end of February 2015, we will be limiting the number of IP&E Day Guest passes accepted at PIC to one hundred (100) per day. The IP&E promotional coupons will be honored until Feb 28, 2015. If you are planning to use your IP&E passes, please be advised they will be honored on a first come, first served basis. No reservations will be accepted.


Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

PIC Saipan Management



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.mp>



INVITATION FOR BIDS
(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: FEBRUARY 20, 2015 • TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC RFP 2015-001
“Building Maintenance of NMHC’s Housing Units in Tinian (20 units)”

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, are hereby giving notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the Building Maintenance of NMHC’s Housing Units in Tinian.

Interested individuals or firms may pick up a copy of the Project Package beginning Friday, January 23, 2015, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, or at the Tinian Field Office during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Tinian Field Office on **Friday, January 30, 2015, at 9:00 a.m.** Bidders will have the opportunity to tour the housing subdivisions and inspect several housing units owned by NMHC that will be covered under the proposed contract. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders’ understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder. Inquiries regarding this solicitation must be addressed in writing to the NMHC Corporate Director at P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 4, 2015.

NMHC reserves the right to reject any and all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in the bids if determined to be in its best interest. All bids received shall become the property of the Commonwealth Government.

/s/ **Jesse S. Palacios**
Corporate Director

/s/ **Herman S. Sablan, Director**
Division of Procurement & Supply

Science & Technology

Microsoft shows off Windows 10 and 'HoloLens'

REDMOND, Wash. (AP)—Microsoft on Wednesday took the wraps off a new version of Windows—and a new wearable 3D gadget it calls the HoloLens.

The company showed the new headset, which lets users view and interact with three-dimensional images, at an event where it also revealed new features coming to the company's flagship operating software.

Executives said Windows 10 is designed to embrace the way people use computers today—offering a familiar experience as they switch back and forth from personal computers to tablets, smartphones and other gadgets such as gaming consoles or even holographic projectors.

While it's designed to let apps work in similar fashion on all those devices, Windows 10 will also come with a new Web browser that will be closely integrated with Cortana, the company's voice-activated answer to Siri. Microsoft is expanding Cortana to serve as a search engine and personal assistant, capable of answering questions and responding to commands such as "Play music" on desktop and laptop computers, as well as mobile devices.

And in a break from past practice, Microsoft announced

that Windows 10 will be released later this year as a free upgrade for anyone owning a computer or gadget that's currently running Windows 8.1 or 7, the two previous versions of the software.

Microsoft is making a big bet that Windows 10 will help it regain ground the company has lost to the mobile computing boom. Windows has long been the dominating operating software for desktop and laptop computers, but that business has suffered as more people have begun using smartphones and tablets. Microsoft tried to reach those users by emphasizing touch-screen features in its last update, Windows 8, but many traditional PC users found it jarring and difficult to navigate.

Hoping to win back a larger audience, Microsoft is promising Windows 10 will provide a familiar experience to users on across devices, and a common platform for software developers to create apps that work on all of them.

"Windows 10 is built for a world in which there are going to be more devices on the planet than people," CEO Satya Nadella told reporters and industry analysts at Microsoft's headquarters. He said Microsoft

wants to "enable that seamless cross-over, across devices as you move around at home and at work."

Rivals including Apple and Google have also been working toward that goal, by making apps that, for example, save files or photos created on a PC and let the user retrieve them on a smartphone. But analysts say new features in Windows 10 could give Microsoft an edge.

For example, Microsoft executives showed new versions of the company's Word app, its Outlook email service and a photo-storage app that look and act similarly on different screen sizes. They also promise to synchronize files so that changes made on one device would appear when the app is opened on another gadget.

Windows 10 will be used in Microsoft's Xbox gaming systems as well. A new Xbox app for computers running Windows 10 will give gamers one place to find messages, video clips and games they have played on multiple devices. Microsoft gaming executive Phil Spencer also suggested programmers may eventually use Windows 10 to create other apps for TVs tied to an Xbox console.

As for the company's new

hologram device, executives did not say when it will be

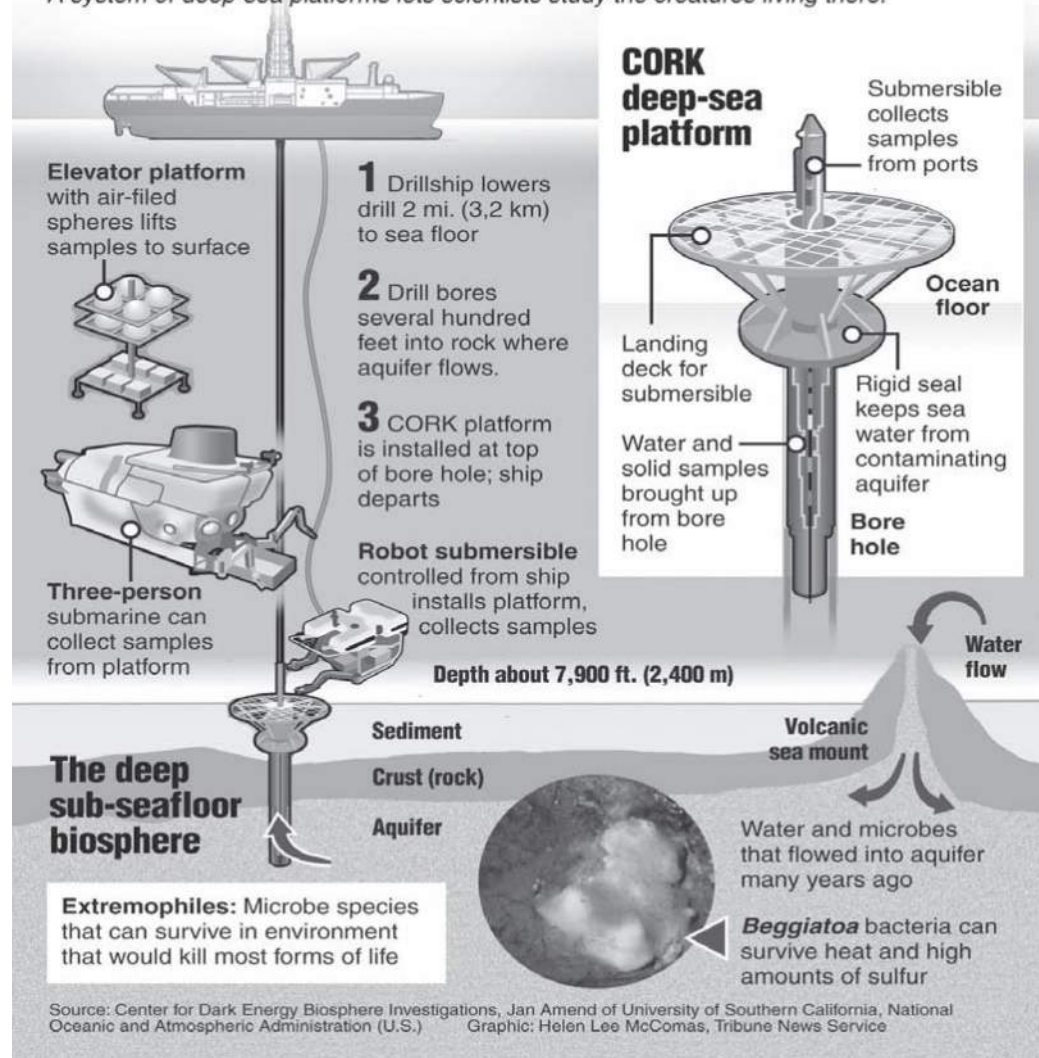
available for sale. But they talked about using it for games as well as more serious purposes, such as helping a surgeon visualize a new operating

technique or showing someone how to perform plumbing repairs. Nadella said it will be priced to appeal to both consumers and businesses.

Science Matters

What lives deep under sea floor?

Far beneath the ocean floor lies a vast, slowly circulating aquifer (reservoir) of salt water. A system of deep-sea platforms lets scientists study the creatures living there.



IN HUMBLE GRATITUDE

We, the family of the late

†Lucinda Rosa Borja Roberto-Sablan

Wish to extend our deepest sincere appreciation for all the kindness and words of comfort that you all have given us on the loss of our beloved "Lucinda". Your precious prayers, love, support, and condolences has helped us during our most difficult times and has also given us the courage to accept that although, "Lucinda" has gone from our lives and into her final resting place, she will always live among us in our hearts. Your presence and sacrifices during this difficult time is greatly appreciated.

Thank You, Yan Dangkolo
Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase!

Crispin M. Sablan
and Children

TECH Q & A

Full drive warning is false alarm

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q: I'm worried that my Dell PC's 320-gigabyte hard drive is running out of storage space. I keep getting warnings that nearly all of "back-up/recovery E:" capacity has been used up; only 2.57 megabytes remain out of 14.6 gigabytes. I can't afford a new laptop. Should I move files to an external drive to free up space?

A: Your PC isn't running out of hard disk space. Some data is in the wrong place and needs to be moved.

Here's what happened. Dell "partitioned" your PC hard drive into three segments that are electronically walled off from each other. There's the "C" drive, which contains more than 90 percent of the 320 gigabytes. It stores most programs and data. Then there's the "D" or "E" drive, a 14.6 gigabyte segment that contains Windows recovery software. And there's a "Del-lutlity" segment that contains about 100 megabytes of diagnostic software.

Some of your data that should have been stored on the C drive was instead stored on the E drive, nearly filling it up. You need to copy that data to another location, such as an external hard drive, then delete it from the E drive.

Use Windows Explorer to open your E drive. Copy, then delete, all files except the following vital files that must be left alone: \$RECYCLE BIN\$ (may not be visible because it's a "hidden file"); Dell; Program Files; Program Data (may not be visible); Sources; System Volume Information (may not be visible); Tools; Users; Windows. Once you delete the other files on E, your PC should operate normally. If you've deleted any programs, reinstall them on your C drive. You can move data from the external drive to the C drive as needed.

Q: My Toshiba external hard drive abruptly stopped working. No PC I connected to the drive could read it, and for a while I got the message that there was no data on

the drive. Because there are pictures on the drive that I can't replace, I took it to a local repair shop, where I was told they could read the data on the drive for me. I didn't take them up on it, and now the disk drive seems worse off because no PC can even detect it. What should I do?

A: The electronics that run the disk drive aren't functioning, but the photos may still be stored on the drive's magnetic disk, which doesn't require any power to retain its data. The fact that your PC got a "no data" message from the damaged drive doesn't mean the data isn't still there.

Your best option is to take the device to a repair shop that has equipment that can power-up the damaged drive long enough to copy the data from the disk. This isn't always possible, but it often can be done.

If the disk drive is less than two years old, you may be able to make a claim under Toshiba's warranty, though that will be only for the drive itself, not the cost of retrieving data. For warranty details, see tinyurl.com/ohz3uak.

Life & Style

The beard of Egypt's King Tut is hastily glued back on with epoxy



AP
This July 1996 photo shows the mask of King Tutankhamun at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo.

mask now shows a gap between the face and the beard, whereas before it was directly attached: "Now you can see a layer of transparent yellow."

Another museum conservator, who was present at the time of the repair, said that epoxy had dried on the face of the boy king's mask and that a colleague used a spatula to remove it, leaving scratches. The first conservator, who inspects the artifact regularly, confirmed the scratches and said it was clear that they had been made by a tool used to scrape off the epoxy.

Egypt's tourist industry, once a pillar of the economy, has yet to recover from three years of tumult following a 2011 uprising that toppled longtime autocrat Hosni Mubarak.

Museums and the opening of new tombs are part of plans to revive the industry. But authorities have made no significant improvements to the Egyptian Museum since its construction in 1902, and plans to move the Tutankhamun exhibit to its new home in the Grand Egyptian Museum scheduled to open in 2018 have yet to be divulged.

Neither the Antiquities Ministry nor the museum administration could be reached for comment Wednesday evening. One of the conservators said an investigation was underway and that a meeting had been held on the subject earlier in the day.

The burial mask, discovered by British archaeologists Howard Carter and George Herbert in 1922, sparked worldwide interest in archaeology and ancient Egypt when it was unearthed along with Tutankhamun's nearly intact tomb.

CAIRO (AP)—The blue and gold braided beard on the burial mask of famed pharaoh Tutankhamun was hastily glued back on with epoxy, damaging the relic after it was knocked during cleaning, conservators at the Egyptian Museum in Cairo said Wednesday.

The museum is one of the city's main tourist sites, but in some areas, ancient wooden sarcophagi lay unprotected from the public, while pharaonic burial shrouds, mounted on walls, crumble from behind open panels of glass. Tutankhamun's mask, over 3,300 years old, and other contents of his tomb are its top exhibits.

Three of the museum's conservators reached by telephone gave differing accounts of when the incident occurred last year, and whether the beard was knocked

off by accident while the mask's case was being cleaned, or was removed because it was loose.

They agree however that orders came from above to fix it quickly and that an inappropriate adhesive was used. All spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of professional reprisals.

"Unfortunately he used a very irreversible material—epoxy has a very high property for attaching and is used on metal or stone but I think it wasn't suitable for an outstanding object like Tutankhamun's golden mask," one conservator said.

"The mask should have been taken to the conservation lab but they were in a rush to get it displayed quickly again and used this quick drying, irreversible material," the conservator added.

The conservator said that the

four years in prison.

The 55-year-old rapper and reality TV star, whose real name is William Drayton, declined to discuss the charges against him. His attorney, Indji Bessim, had previously said she was attempting to reach a plea agreement following Flav's stop Jan. 9, 2014, while driving to his mother's funeral.

Bessim declined to speak with reporters Wednesday.

Prosecutors say Flav had his license suspended 15 times before being stopped on the Meadowbrook Parkway while speeding to his mother's funeral, but they declined to comment on why a plea agreement never materialized.

The rapper is a Long Island native; he currently lives in Las

Vegas. He was inducted in 2013 with the rap group Public Enemy into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

A Nevada judge closed a criminal case against Drayton in August after he completed a required domestic violence counseling course.

Flav pleaded guilty in April to attempted battery and battery constituting domestic violence, misdemeanors, for wielding a kitchen knife during a home argument with his longtime girlfriend's 17-year-old son.

Prosecutors dropped felony assault and child endangerment charges that could have gotten Flav up to 12 years in prison. He served probation and underwent counseling.

In Celebration of his new life †Eulogio Manalo King "Eloy"

Born to life on January 23, 1963 and was called to Eternal rest on January 14, 2015

In His new life, He now joins His:

Father: †Esteban C. Borja
Mother: †Maria Manalo King
Parents-In-Law: †Santiago Acosta Camacho
†Carmen Sablan Dela Cruz Camacho

His memories will forever live in the hearts of His:

Wife: Lydia Dela Cruz Camacho King

Children and Grandchildren:

Santiago John & Jocelyn King (Kobe John & Aiden Joseph)
Eulogio C. King, Jr.
Patrick Jake C. King
Vincent George C. King & Isha Adhitari (Kathalea Vinicia)
Carmen Maria C. King

Brothers, Sisters and In-Laws of †Eloy:

†Oscar M. King - family
Rita K. & †Paulino SN. Manglona and family
Steven M. & †Emiliana SN. King and family
Juanis M. & †Ermelunda B. King and family
Vicente M. & Martina E. King and family
Cristina K. & Jeus T. Cabrera and family
Magdalena K. & Romulo B. Misola and family
Rosalie K. & Luisito D. Bautista and family
Alexandro M. & Lilia M. King and family
Thomas M. & Karen King and family
Juan M. King and children
†Rudolfo M. King & Angie C. Atalig and family

†Alicia & Miguel Evangelista and family
Dolores Chargualaf and family
Victor & Eloise Borja and family
Esteban & Corazon Borja and children
Arsene & Diana Borja and family
Raymond & Bertha Borja and family
Gilbert & Chona Borja and family
†Clarence Borja
Jasper Borja & Lisa Aguon and family
Clarence & Brooklyn Borja and family
Lisa Borja & Godfrey Mendiola and family

Brothers-In-Law and Sisters-In-Law of †Eloy:

Gabriel DLC. & Frances T. Camacho and family
†Joseph DLC. & Martha C. Camacho and family
Francisco DLC. Camacho & Mazie SN. Taitano and family
Patricia C. & Jose P. Villagomez and family
Edward DLC. & Elizabeth G. Camacho and family
Martin DLC. & Raynita L. Camacho and family
Ricardo DLC. & Cynthia R. Camacho and family
Ruth C. & Steven M. Pangelinan and family
Gernadine DLC. Camacho & Norbert O. Mettao



*St. Peregrine, Patron of
Cancer Patients – Pray For Us*

Mass of Intentions are being celebrated daily at 6:00am at Kristo Rai Church and Mount Carmel Cathedral and also at San Jose Church in Tinian at 6:00am. Holy Rosary is being prayed nightly at 7:00pm at San Jose Church, Tinian.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, January 31, 2015. His remains will be escorted from Tinian Health Center to San Jose Church, Tinian at 7:30am. Responso Service will be at 8:00am followed by Holy Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am and Interment Service will be at 12:00nn at Tinian Cemetery where he will be at a peaceful rest.

Please join us in prayers,
Thank you and Si Yu'us Ma'sae

Lydia Camacho King, Children and Families

Italy unveils record haul of antiquities from Swiss raids

ROME (AP)—Authorities on Wednesday unveiled what they said was a record haul of rare antiquities illegally looted from Italy and discovered during raids on Swiss warehouses belonging to a Sicilian former art dealer.

Police estimated the value of the 5,361 vases, kraters, bronze statues and frescoes at about 50 million euros (\$58 million).

The works, from the 8th century B.C. to the 3rd century, were laid out Wednesday at the Terme di Diocleziano National Roman Museum and may go on public display before being returned to museums in southern Italy, from where they originated.

"This is by a long shot the biggest recovery in history in terms of the quantity and quality of the archaeological treasures," Carabinieri Gen. Mariano Mossa told a news conference.

The items were found during an investigation into Basel-based art dealer Gianfranco Becchina and his wife, accused by prosecutors of being part of an antiquities trafficking network that involved "tombaroli" tomb raiders in southern Italy, dealers and buyers around the globe.

An email to Becchina's olive oil farm in Sicily was not immediately returned. Police said he was free after the statute of limitations expired on the charges. In a recent open letter responding to police accusations against him in Italy's *La Repubblica* newspaper, Becchina insisted on his innocence and said he had never been convicted, much less tried, and had never been able to defend himself.

In a press release, the carabinieri



AP
Antiquities recovered by Italian Carabinieri, military police, are displayed at Terme di Diocleziano museum during a press conference in Rome, Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2015.

said the investigation showed how dealers would forge provenance papers for the antiquities and create fictitious histories for them, so that museums and private collectors could in theory buy them in good faith.

As a result, perhaps more important than the antiquities themselves is that Italian authorities now have detailed documentation of Becchina's

inventory, including photos and receipts, that was also found in the warehouses, police said.

David Gill, professor of archaeological heritage at University Campus Suffolk and author of the "Lootingmatters" blog, said the documentation will likely point to objects that are now in top museums and will certainly be on the Italians' list for repatriation.

Family of comedian killed in Wal-Mart crash settles claim

NEW YORK (AP)—The family of a comedian killed in a New Jersey Turnpike crash that seriously injured Tracy Morgan last summer has settled a wrongful-death claim with Wal-Mart.

The out-of-court settlement between Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and the estate of James McNair is the first stemming from the June 7 crash, in which a Wal-Mart truck slammed into a limo van carrying Morgan and others home from a show in Delaware.

Morgan, the former "Saturday Night Live" and "30 Rock" star, suffered a traumatic brain injury in the accident, according to his lawyer. Criminal charges against truck driver Kevin Roper are pending in state court in New Jersey.

McNair, 62, of Peekskill, grew up with Morgan in Brooklyn and was a friend and mentor to him over the years.

The terms of the settlement are confidential, but McNair family attorney Daryl Zaslow told The Associated Press the family was pleased with the outcome.

Wal-Mart "caused extensive damage" to the family but accepted responsibility and "more than stepped up to the plate and took care of this family,"

Zaslow said.

"Ultimately they did the right thing by the McNairs," he said.

Wal-Mart spokeswoman Brooke Buchanan said the company, based in Bentonville, Arkansas, was working toward settlements with others injured in the accident.

"We know there is nothing we can do to change what happened to Mr. McNair," Buchanan said. "We're committed to doing what's right."

In an interview with the AP on Wednesday, McNair's children—Denita, 19, and Jamel, 26—described their father as a humble, grounded man. They said he attained a level of fame but cared less about the trappings of celebrity than about helping others, whether through advice to young comedians or giving out free Thanksgiving turkeys to needy families in his hometown.

"You don't have to be a celebrity to make a difference in a lot of people's lives," Jamel McNair said. "My dad made a huge difference in a lot of people's lives."

Denita McNair was about to graduate from high school at the time of her father's death, and she said she hopes to go to college eventually after taking

some time off. Jamel McNair is pursuing a singing career. Both said they haven't been contacted by Morgan or his representatives since the accident.

An attorney representing Morgan didn't immediately respond to a message seeking comment on the settlement. The lawyer, Benedict Morelli, said last month that Morgan hadn't fully recovered from his brain injury and that it was uncertain if he would be "the Tracy Morgan he once was."

Passengers Ardley Fuqua, of Jersey City, New Jersey, and Jeffrey Millea, of Shelton, Connecticut, also suffered serious injuries in the June crash. A lawsuit filed against Wal-Mart by Morgan, Fuqua and Millea is proceeding in federal court.

Under terms of the settlement, Wal-Mart admitted no liability in the crash, Zaslow said, adding that the settlement was reached before the formal filing of a lawsuit.

Roper, the driver, has pleaded not guilty to charges of death by auto and assault by auto. According to the criminal complaint, Roper was operating the truck without having slept for more than 24 hours.

New Kids on the Block: New boy bands can learn from us

NEW YORK (AP)—New Kids on the Block are ready to take new boy bands on the block to school.

The Boston-based veteran group, which announced a summer tour with TLC and Nelly this week, said contemporary boy bands should check out their live concerts to learn from the experts.

"As far as boy bands, you know, we dance, we perform. I mean, I hate to sound like an old fogey, but these kids don't know what they're missing nowadays because we got to sing and dance for our supper, you know what I mean, and we love to do that," Joey McIntyre, 42, said in an interview Tuesday at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

"So maybe a few kids could come to the show and see how it's done."

The Main Event tour kicks off May 1 in Las Vegas. Tickets go on sale Jan. 31.

In the last few years, boy bands have resurged, with One Direction leading the pack, followed by 5 Seconds of Summer. Others, from The Wanted to Mindless Behavior, have had some success.

Donnie Wahlberg, 45, said the decades-long bond between New Kids on the Block and their fans makes it worthwhile.

"I would rather have the credibility of thousands of fans and have them be happy. That's what we've learned and that's why we're still here," Wahlberg said. "We keep it

alive because it stays alive between us and our fans. It's a real relationship now."

Wahlberg and McIntyre, along with bandmates Danny Wood and brothers Jordan and Jonathan Knight, began playing together more than 30 years ago. They said they're excited to share a stage with one of the top-selling female groups of all-time and the multiplatinum Nelly.

"It's always nice to go out onstage and know there might be some people out there that haven't seen what you do, so you're engaging with them. It keeps it fresh for you," McIntyre said. "It just adds to the juice of the night, and we're ready to do that."

The 42-date tour wraps July 2 in Buffalo, New York.



AP
New Kids on the Block members, from left, Joey McIntyre, Danny Wood, Donnie Wahlberg, Jonathan Knight and Jordan Knight announce their "The Main Event" tour at Madison Square Garden on Tuesday, Jan. 20, 2015, in New York.

Pharrell: 'Live Earth' concert to press for climate action

DAVOS, Switzerland (AP)—Pharrell Williams says he'll have all of humanity singing together at a worldwide concert June 18 to fight global warming.

The pop star is teaming up with Nobel Peace Prize-winner Al Gore and producer Kevin Wall to pull off a "Live Earth" concert on seven continents to build support for a U.N. climate pact in Paris among more than 190 nations in December.

"I think you guys know how serious the global warming thing is, and so for us we're taking it very seriously, and we wanted to do something very different this time," Williams said.

"Instead of just having people perform, we literally - and I can't go into it now because some interesting surprises are coming out soon - but we literally are going to have humanity harmonize all at once."

After giving a trademark slide show, in which he linked rising temperatures to the Arab Spring and the catastrophic Syrian war, Gore said the concert will en-



US singer Pharrell Williams gestures as he speaks during the panel "What's Next? A Climate for Action", at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2015.

gage "a billion voices with one message—to demand climate action now."

The U.N.-brokered climate negotiations have been simmering for years. Nations have agreed on the goal of stabilizing greenhouse gases at a level that keeps global warming below 2 degrees C (3.6 F), compared with pre-industrial times, but a legally binding agreement that puts that into action has remained elusive.

A key sticking point is how to pay for it. Another is how much historical responsibility nations must bear for polluting to industrialize versus developing countries that are polluting more now to grow their markets.

The world's two largest emitters of heat-trapping gases, China and the U.S., negotiated secretly for months in 2014 to reach a non-binding climate change agreement.

However, momentum from that deal dissipated in Lima, Peru, where a round of climate talks salvaged a compromise in December to try to set up a Paris deal.

Gore said that along with putting a price on carbon to speed up the transition to renewable energies, "we need to put a price on denial in politics. People need to stop financing denial."

Anne Hathaway heading to the stage this spring

NEW YORK (AP)—Anne Hathaway will be playing something a little different this spring—an Air Force fighter pilot in a one-woman stage show.

The Public Theater said Wednesday that the Academy Award-winner will star in George Brant's play "Grounded" starting April 7. It's about a pilot who is reassigned to operate a military drone.

Visionary director Julie Taymor, behind the beauty of "The Lion King," will direct.

Hathaway, who won an Oscar in Tom Hooper's "Les Misérables," returns to the Public for the first time since she played Viola in a



Actress Anne Hathaway attends AOL's BUILD Speaker Series to discuss her upcoming film "Song One" at AOL Studios on Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2015, in New York.

2009 Shakespeare in the Park production.

'Transparent,' 'Imitation Game' up for GLAAD Media Awards

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"The Imitation Game" and "Transparent" are among this year's GLAAD Media Awards nominees.

The gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender advocacy group announced the 144 nominees for its 26th annual honors Wednesday.

"Imitation Game" is up for outstanding wide release film, along with "Love Is Strange," "Pride," "The Skeleton Twins" and "Tammy."

Amazon earned its first nod for "Transparent," which is nominated for outstanding comedy series with "Brooklyn Nine-Nine," "Faking It," "Glee," "Looking," "Modern Family," "Orange Is the New

Black," "Please Like Me," "Sirens" and "Vicious."

The GLAAD Media Awards honor outstanding images of the LGBT community in areas including music, movies, TV and journalism.

The role-playing video game "Dragon Age: Inquisition" received a special recognition award for the complex and unique LGBT characters prominently integrated throughout the game. GLAAD's special recognition awards are typically given to media projects that don't qualify in a competitive category.

The awards will be presented this spring in Los Angeles and New York.

1,200 have requested refunds for Bill Cosby's Denver shows

DENVER (AP)—The director of Denver's Arts & Venues department says nearly 40 percent of the tickets originally purchased for Bill Cosby's comedy shows in the city were returned for refunds.

The Denver Post reports Kent

Rice told the city council this week that patrons requested refunds for 1,200 of the 3,100 tickets sold—or 38.7 percent. The Buell Theatre holds 2,884 people per show, so Cosby's two sets Jan. 17 could have ac-

commodated a total of 5,768.

The 77-year-old comedian is facing sexual assault accusations from at least 15 women, with some of the claims dating back decades. He's denied the allegations through his attorney

and hasn't been charged.

Cosby performed to a welcoming Denver audience, despite a protest by about 100 people chanting "Rape is not a joke!" and "No means no!" outside the theater.

TV son says painful to watch Bill Cosby face allegations

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Malcolm-Jamal Warner says it's difficult to see Bill Cosby face allegations of sexual assault.

Warner, who played Cosby's son Theo in the hit 1984-1992 sitcom "The Cosby Show," told Billboard magazine that the comedian has been an important mentor and friend to him.

The 44-year-old Warner didn't directly address the allegations made by at least 15 women, citing a lack of first-hand knowledge.

But he said that it's as painful to watch Cosby face the allegations as it is to hear any woman talk about sexual assault, "whether true or not."

"The Bill Cosby I know has been great to me and great for a lot of people. What he's done for comedy and television has been legendary and history-making," Warner said. "What he's done for the black community and education has been invaluable. That's the Bill Cosby I know."

Cosby, 77, has not been

charged with a crime and through his attorney has denied allegations, some of them dating back decades, that he drugged and assaulted women.

The Billboard interview with Warner, a Grammy nominee for his work on Robert Glasper's "Black Radio 2," was published online Wednesday.

New desk comes with a view co-worker would like to avoid

DEAR ABBY: I like my job a lot, but I have recently been assigned a different desk. I now sit next to someone who regularly draws his blood with a lancet and gives himself a shot for his diabetes just a foot away from me.

I am extremely uncomfortable around blood and needles. I don't want to make waves because this person has been here a lot longer than I have, and apparently, no one has ever been bothered by it.

Am I being silly? Would it be improper to ask my supervisor to move me? Moving desks is a big enough deal that I will have to give a reason. Help

SQUEAMISH IN GREAT FALLS, MONT.

DEAR SQUEAMISH: Because the sight of blood and needles makes you uncomfortable, discuss this with your supervisor ASAP. While these are procedures many people with diabetes must attend to on a daily basis, you shouldn't have to watch if you don't want to.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My daughter and son-in-law were blessed with a child two years ago. My ex-husband (not my daughter's father) has hardly been in her life since our divorce 15 years ago. She never called him Dad. We have both remarried.

He and his new wife have moved close to the kids and want to be grandparents. I don't have a problem with them being close to

my daughter, but I resent them being called "grandparents." I feel that title should be reserved.

Frankly, this has put a chasm in an otherwise close relationship. My daughter and son-in-law don't understand why I'm having a problem with it. Please give me some advice.

EARNED THE RIGHT IN VIRGINIA

DEAR EARNED: OK. While I understand your jealousy, for all concerned, you need to realize that the more love and attention a child has, the better. Your grandchild will benefit from having many caring adults in his/her life as long as they're not at each other's throats. While your ex and his wife may not technically be grandparents, if you blow this out of proportion, you risk alienating your daughter, so I advise against it.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am a professor at a university on a military base in Germany. Most of my students are soldiers, their families or retirees, so my students range in age from 18 to 60. I do not yet have my Ph.D., only my master's.

I communicate a lot with my students through email. How should I sign my emails to them? I can't say Dr. So-and-So. Do I use my full name or Professor So-and-So? While I'm friendly with my students, I still believe in keeping a professional distance, and I want to convey a sense of professional-

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



ism in my emails.

PROFESSOR SO-AND-SO

DEAR PROFESSOR SO-AND-SO: Sign your communications with your students exactly the way you have signed the one you have written to me.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

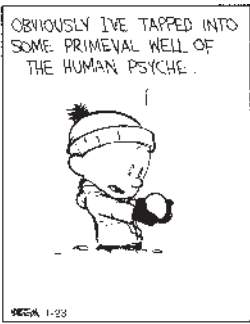
To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

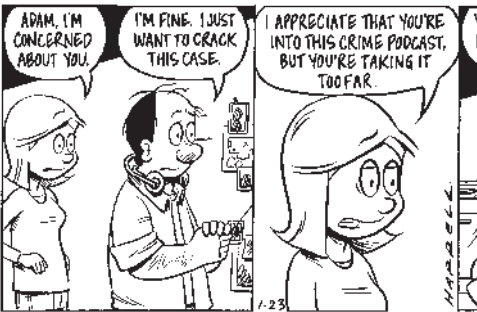
Calvin and Hobbes



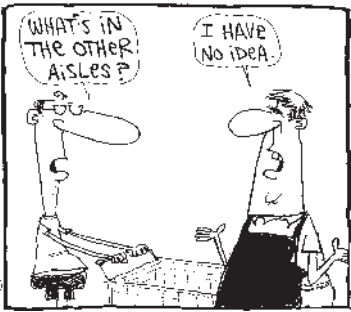
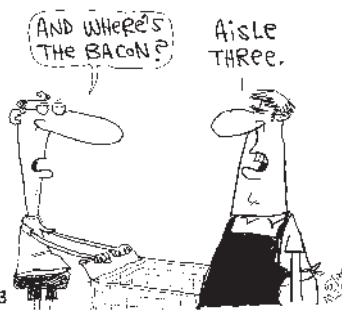
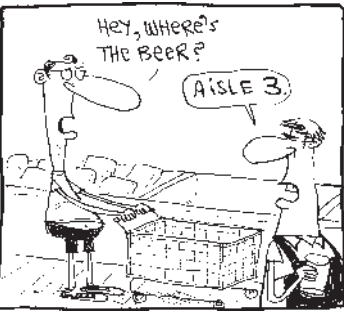
Garfield®



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The Duplex



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Toronto Maple —

6 "The Talk" ailer

9 Cleopatra's slayer

12 Confuse Lucy

13 Actress

14 Hot tub

15 Made on a loom

16 Gave counsel

18 Mass departure

20 See to

21 Ever-green type

23 Scale members

24 Disheveled

25 Cold War weapon

27 Cut at an angle

29 Having more on one's plate

31 Fly

35 Medal or trophy

37 Leading man?

DOWN

1 Legislation

2 Tokyo's old name

3 Many end with "ly"

4 Bend of La Mancha

5 Man

6 Contract section

7 Actions at auctions

8 Explorer or Pathfinder

9 No liability

10 Exhausted

11 Rice field

17 Roma's country

19 Winger or Messing

21 Teeny tale

22 Hosp. area

24 Gun the engine

26 Unhealthy atmosphere

28 Sky-walker's pop

30 Lamb's dam

32 Beginnings

33 Spigot

34 Type measures

36 Niche

38 Stop

39 Milk dispenser

40 Delirious one

42 Burdened

45 Wound cover

46 Tower city

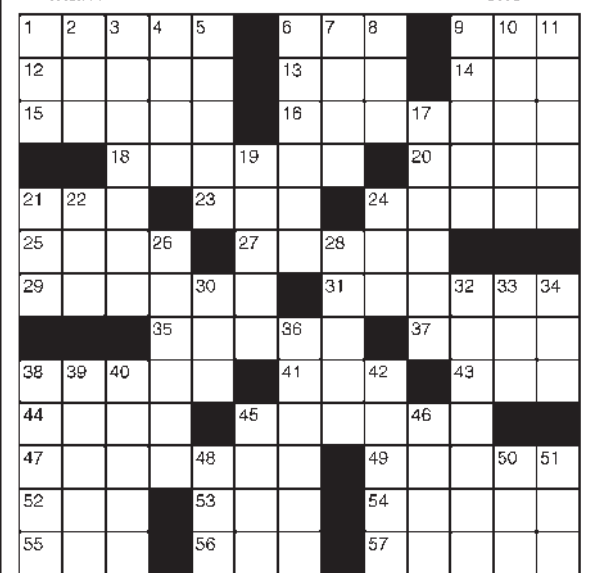
48 San Francisco's — Hill

50 Understood

51 Bond, for one

Solution time: 25 mins.

Yesterdays answer 1-23



STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tiffani Thiessen, 41; Mariska Hargitay, 51; Gail O'Grady, 52; Richard Dean Anderson, 65.

Happy Birthday: Do what you know in your heart is right. Implement discipline in order to regain your strength and maintain your position. Loss is likely if you are not willing to do your part. Refuse to be a follower when you should be setting an example and leading those facing trouble toward a better future. Be the one who makes a difference. Your numbers are 3, 10, 24, 29, 30, 44, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Sign contracts, enforce rules or make a promise to someone you care deeply about, and you will make positive progress. Romance should be on your agenda for the evening hours. Embrace change. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Refuse to let anyone push you in a direction that you are unsure about. Let your intuition guide you, and you will eventually discover the results you are looking for. Don't let someone you love lead you astray. ****

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You will face a challenging situation if you have been evasive. Don't hide the truth or you will end up being blamed for something you didn't do. Focus on your strengths and doing your best to get ahead. Love is on the rise. **

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Look for the most unusual route and you will engage in the most interesting encounters and gain valuable experience. Follow your heart and voice opinions that are based on your feelings and integrity. *****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You may need a change of scenery, but don't enforce unnecessary alterations unless you have the time and money readily available. A conservative push will help you get what you want without regret or loss. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep an open mind when dealing with partnerships. Compromise will help you keep your relationship balanced. A unique change to the way you invest or handle your money will make a positive difference and outcome. ***

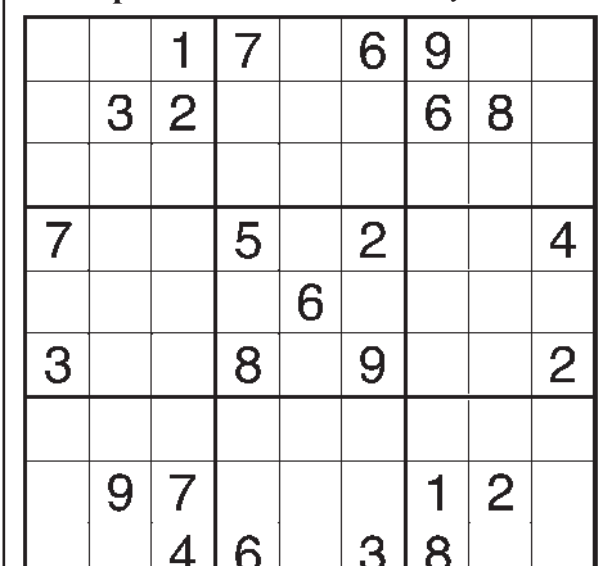
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take a stance and make a statement vocally or physically. It's up to you to make a choice and to follow a path that suits you instead of accommodating everyone else. Happiness comes from doing what's best and right for you. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Keep your priorities straight and don't cave under pressure. Focus on creative endeavors and the pursuits that will bring you the greatest joy. Protect your mental and physical health from situations that are prone to stress and disputes. *****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take a pass if someone tries to use emotional blackmail on you. Focus on personal growth and productivity. Communication will help you get a better understanding of what's going on and how you can avoid the turmoil. **

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

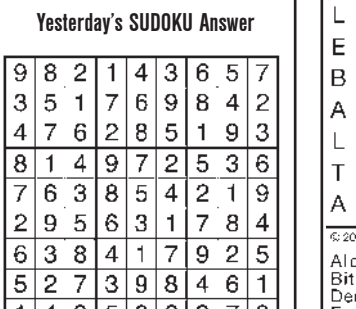


Difficulty Level ★★★★★

1/23

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.



Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

Difficulty Level ★★★

1/23

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Steer clear of unpredictable situations. Look for stability through conservative investments and tried-and-true methods that will help you accomplish your goals. Strength and courage will ward off negativity and opposition. Don't let anyone mislead you. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can set a good example and work toward a goal that will boost your reputation as well as your confidence. A change in vocation and productive partnerships with those who complement your skills are in the stars. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Take your time and ferret out information before you make a decision that will affect your future. You will learn a lot from those who have been faced with similar situations in the past. A favor will be granted if you ask graciously. ***

Birthday Baby: You are inquisitive and adaptable. You are free-spirited and sensitive.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

DISARONNO LIQUEUR Solution: 9 letters

D O M E N I C O C K T A I L S
R O R I G I N A L E L T T O B
I T M C R A N B E R R Y G H C
N T I L L V A W I N I U L O H
K E X C L U S I V E R S A C E
S R I D E R O V A L F N S L R
A A N H E R B S P O O A S A R
S M G T A C T O C I R P A E Y
L A T G S S I E S L M P R F D
E I U E E R I U R T U L O R N
B S M C R I F I J R L E N U O
A I R E T N A C E D A F N I M
L E B A I S A N I E R C O T L
T M L A L O C P A R T I E S A
A Y M O S C H I N O N A R U M

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Alcohol, Almond, Amaretto, Amber, Apple, Apricot, Bittersweet, Bottle, Cherry, Cocktails, Cola, Cranberry, Decanter, Domenico, Drinks, Exclusive, Flavored, Formula, Fruits, Glass, Herbs, ILLVA, Infusion, Italy, Juice, Kernel Oil, Labels, Limes, Luini, Mixing, Moschino, Murano, Originale, Parties, Reina, Saranno, Secret, Sugar, Terrace, Versace
Yesterday's Answer: Techniques
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(1) ACCOUNTING CLERK

Eligible U.S. workers apply at the Human Resources Office, Kan Pacific Saipan, Ltd. (Marpi)

Submit resume or fill up an application attached with police clearance at Kan Pacific Saipan, Ltd. H.R. office in Marpi. Drug test require. Contact person: Emelina Santos Tel # 322-0770 ext. 402/409.

GARAGE SALE
(Lots of Stuff!)

Saturday, January 24, 2015, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
As Terlaje Hill, West of NMC

Route 31 - Finasisu Lane and Nagao Place
Look for Sign near Big CUC water tank
285-5149/287-0743

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As Lito-Unfurnished 4BR 2 BTH, Utilities not included. \$800per month. Contact 285-9235 after 6:00PM.

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235-6527/28 or 285-1317

CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY & NIGHT

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2-BR, 1-BTH. **\$350-\$550/month.** Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

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Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$600/month**

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(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$550/month**

Hilltop Condominium*
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view. **\$700/month**
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft **\$500/month**
***Wi-Fi & nighttime security excluded**

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Licensed Practical Nurse (1) – Must Pass NCLEX-LPN and hold a CNMI LPN License. At least five years experience is required.

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- Observe patients, charting and reporting changes in patients' conditions, such as adverse reactions to medication or treatment, and taking ant necessary action.
- Answer patients' calls and determine how to assist them.
- Measure and record patients' vital signs, such as height, weight, temperature, blood pressure, pulse, and respiration.
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- Work as part of a healthcare team to assess patient needs, plan and modify care.
- Evaluate nursing intervention outcomes, conferring with other healthcare team members as necessary.
- Other related duties
- Must be able to provide a high level of standard patient care. Especially in eye care; Good communication skill, can compose correspondence, can work under minimum supervision; be able to multi-task; Self-transportation.
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JVA No. 15-007

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Closing Date: January 23, 2015

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Solo suspended for 30 days from US national team



SEATTLE (AP)—Goalkeeper Hope Solo has been suspended from the U.S.

women's national team for 30 days and won't participate in matches next month in Europe.

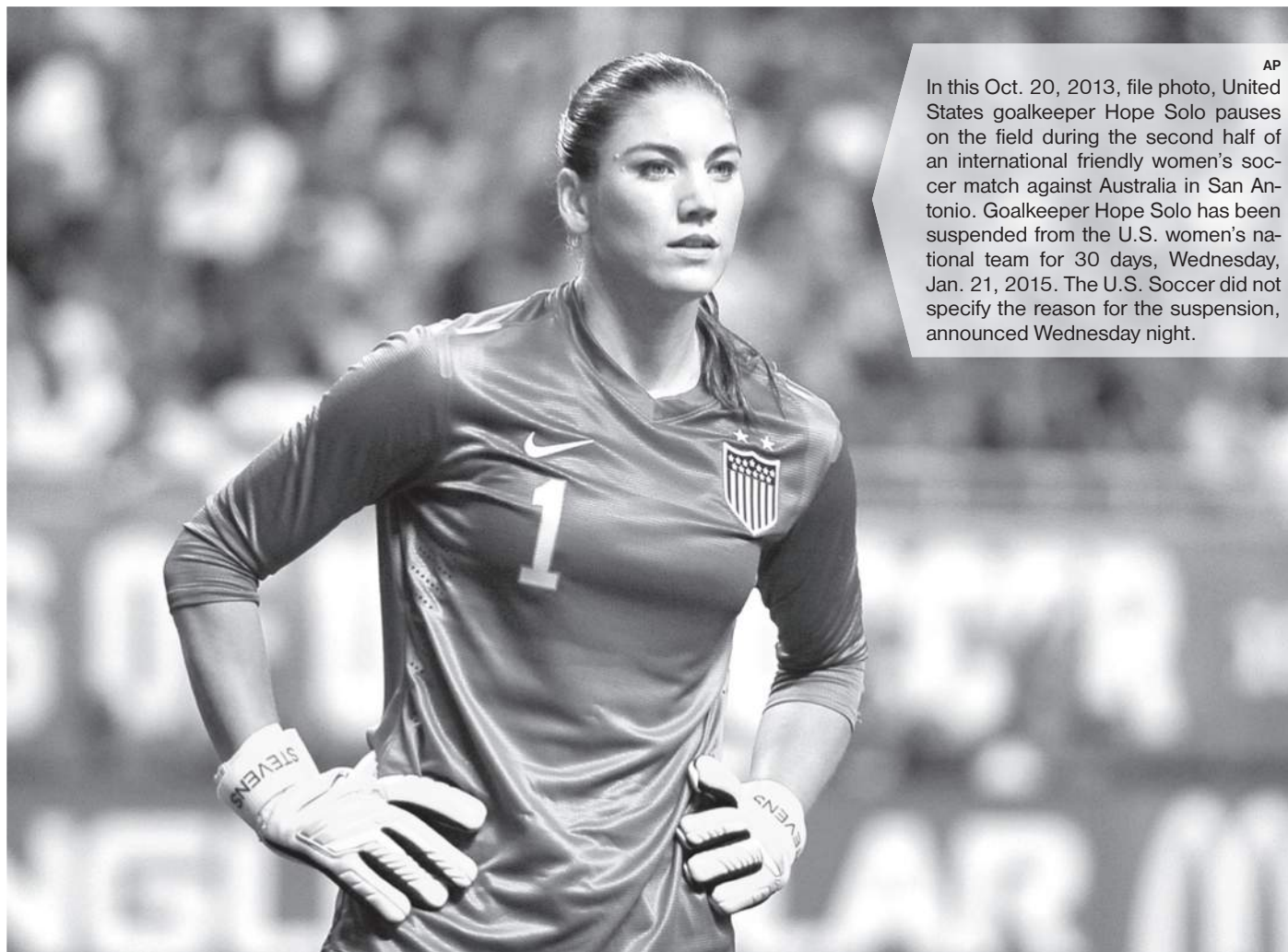
U.S. Soccer did not specify the reason for the suspension, announced Wednesday night. It comes after the arrest of her husband, former Seattle Seahawks tight end Jerramy Stevens, earlier this week on suspicion of driving under the influence.

Solo was in the car when Stevens was pulled over in Manhattan Beach, California, about 1:30 a.m. Monday for driving without headlights. Solo was not arrested or detained.

It is the latest off-field trouble for Solo. Earlier this month, a judge dismissed two misdemeanor counts of domestic violence against her.

The 33-year-old goalkeeper was in Southern California for training camp with the U.S. national team, which is preparing to play in the World Cup starting in June.

"During our current national team camp, Hope made a poor decision that has resulted in a negative impact on U.S. Soccer and her teammates," coach Jill Ellis said in a statement. "We feel at this time it is best for her to step away from the team."



AP
In this Oct. 20, 2013, file photo, United States goalkeeper Hope Solo pauses on the field during the second half of an international friendly women's soccer match against Australia in San Antonio. Goalkeeper Hope Solo has been suspended from the U.S. women's national team for 30 days, Wednesday, Jan. 21, 2015. The U.S. Soccer did not specify the reason for the suspension, announced Wednesday night.

Solo, who has won two Olympic gold medals with the U.S. team, was released from camp.

"I accept and respect the Federation's decision, and more importantly, I apologize for disappointing my teammates, coaches and the Federation who have always supported me,"

Solo said in a statement emailed to The Associated Press on Wednesday night. "I think it's best for me to take a break, decompress from the stress of the last several months, and come back mentally and physically ready to positively contribute to the team."

The domestic violence charges stemmed from an altercation with her half-sister and 17-year-old nephew at a party in Washington last June.

Solo had pleaded not guilty in that case, and she continued to play for the U.S. team and with her National Women's Soccer League team, the Seattle Reign,

while awaiting trial.

Solo married Stevens in 2012. He was arrested just before their wedding for investigation of assault after a disturbance involving Solo, but he was not charged.

Her last appearance with the national team was in December, when she started in a scoreless draw against Brazil in the championship game of the 2014 International Tournament of Brasilia.

Last September in an exhibition victory over Mexico, Solo logged her 72nd shutout, passing Briana Scurry (1994-2008) on national team's career list.

The suspension comes at a critical time for the U.S. team.

Following the exhibition matches in February, the U.S. team will play in the Algarve Cup in March. The team will open World Cup play on June 8 against Australia in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

An expanded field of 24 teams will compete in the World Cup, which will be played in six Canadian cities. The United States is in Group D, which also includes Sweden and Nigeria.

The U.S. women, currently ranked No. 2 in the world behind Germany, are seeking their third World Cup title but first since 1991.

Djokovic, Wawrinka join Serena in third round of Australian Open



MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—Top-ranked Serena Williams fended

off three set points before going on a 10-game roll to beat Vera Zvonareva 7-5, 6-0 and move into the third round of the Australian Open.

Men's No. 1 Novak Djokovic had an easier run, spending a minute less than Williams on Rod Laver Arena in his 84-minute, 6-0, 6-1, 6-4 win over No. 88-ranked Andrey Kuznetsov on Thursday.

Defending champion Stan Wawrinka, who ended four-time champion Djokovic's 25-match winning streak at Melbourne Park in the quarterfinals last year, advanced to the third round for the seventh consecutive year with a 7-6 (4), 7-6 (4), 6-3 win over No. 194-ranked qualifier Marius Copil.

Williams, seeking a sixth Australian and 19th Grand Slam title, saved three set points in the ninth game before holding to swing the momentum of her match against Zvonareva, a two-time Grand Slam finalist who played only five tournaments in 2014.

That's when she told herself: "You know Serena, you've done so well here, you have nothing to lose."

"Things really clicked. I had no other option but for things to click," she added. "Yeah, I just had to start playing better."

Williams said she had to transition quickly to get past such an experienced player in the second round.

"Playing Vera is like, I had to get my mind like, 'Serena, this girl has been ranked as high as No. 2 in the world ... she's a very quality player, she knows what to do,'" Williams said.

After breaking Williams' serve twice in the first set, Zvonareva only won eight points in the second set and didn't get close to another break-point chance.

Williams will next play No. 26 Elina Svitolina, who beat Nicole Gibbs 7-6 (3), 7-6 (6).

Venus Williams had a 6-2, 6-3 win against fellow American Lauren Davis. The elder of the Williams sisters, a seven-time major winner, hasn't been beyond the third round at a major since reaching the fourth round at Wimbledon in 2011.

Sixth-seeded Agnieszka

Radwanska needed only 44 minutes to race through her 6-0, 6-1 win over Johanna Larsson, continuing her run of reaching the third round or better at every Australian Open since 2010. In the next round, she'll face No. 30 Varvara Lepchenko, a 6-1, 7-6 (1) winner over Ajla Tomljanovic.

No. 11 Dominika Cibulkova, the 2014 finalist, beat Tsvetana Pironkova 6-2, 6-0, No. 24 Garbine Muguruza beat veteran Daniela Hantuchova 6-1, 1-6, 6-0 and Madison Keys beat No. 29 Casey Dellacqua 2-6, 6-1, 6-1.

On the men's side, U.S. Open finalist Kei Nishikori beat Ivan Dodig 4-6, 7-5, 6-2, 7-6 (0), getting a crucial service break in the 10th game of the fourth set when Dodig was serving for the set and then dominating in the tiebreaker. He will next face Steve Johnson, who beat No. 30 Santiago Giraldo 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.

No. 12 Feliciano Lopez was leading 4-6, 4-6, 7-6 (3), 4-0 when Adrian Mannarino retired from their second-round match and No. 19 John Isner beat Andreas Haider-Maurer 6-4, 7-6 (4), 4-6, 6-4



NEW ENGLAND (AP)—Add underinflated footballs to the list of incidents giving Bill Belichick

a reputation for guile and playing above the rules.

Softer footballs wouldn't explain all of a rout that earned the New England Patriots a spot in the Super Bowl. But it's another example of Belichick's reputation of searching for edges and bending any rules until he gets caught.

Vague injury reports. Spygate. Signing players with intel on opponents. And now, an open NFL investigation into whether the team cheated during its AFC championship win.

"Because it's the Patriots and they have a history, that brings in a different issue," former All-Pro running back Jerome Bettis said on ESPN. "There's some type of culture there that's conducive to cheating and that's a problem."

Team officials on Wednesday did not respond to a request for comment from Belichick, quarterback Tom Brady or team owner Robert Kraft.

Belichick no longer gets the benefit of the doubt among fans and those in football circles, even those who think he's the best coach in the league. Earlier this month, Hall of Fame coach Don Shula called him "Beli-cheat."

It all traces back to a reputation for gamesmanship that blossomed after the three-time Super Bowl winner's last title

in 2004.

In 2007, Belichick was fined \$500,000 and the team was fined \$250,000 and stripped of its 2008 first-round draft choice by the NFL for videotaping New York Jets signals during a 2007 game. At the time, opponents wondered whether he taped practices, too.

Last year, Cleveland Browns coach Mike Pettine suggested Belichick might have gotten a copy of the Jets playbook through Alabama coach Nick Saban, an accusation denied by Saban and then-Jets coach Rex Ryan.

Belichick has signed players days before the Patriots faced their former team, opening up new avenues of intel. Six days before the opener against Miami this season, a 33-20 loss, the Patriots signed safety Don Jones a day after he was cut by the Dolphins. He played nine games for New England before being cut and re-signing with the Dolphins.

Belichick also likes to tweak the NFL on injury reports. For years, he listed Tom Brady as "probable" even though he didn't miss practice and played the games. And he's been known to list close to 20 players on the report, most with minor ailments.

And one week before questions of air pressure, some people questioned whether Belichick was bending the rules in a playoff win against Baltimore by using a four-man offensive line-men formation for three plays on a touchdown drive that helped

the Patriots rally from a 14-point deficit. The formation—a back-up tight end lined up as a tackle-eligible and a running back lined up as an ineligible receiver split wide—wasn't illegal, only creative and intentionally deceptive.

The NFL continued its investigation Wednesday into whether the Patriots snuck underinflated footballs into their 45-7 win against the Colts. Underinflated balls are considered easier to throw and catch, and the league has strict protocols for air pressure and who can handle footballs before and during games. Each team provides its own footballs for use on offense, which are inspected. Tampering or switching footballs can result in \$25,000 fines, or worse.

"We are continuing our review and will provide information as soon as possible," league spokesman Brian McCarthy said.

ESPN reported Tuesday night, citing anonymous sources, that the NFL found 11 of 12 footballs provided by the Patriots were not properly inflated, while balls used by the Colts on offense met league standards.

The issue has drawn strong reaction from players, league executives and other NFL personalities who are debating whether the issue affected the Pats-Colts matchup and the sport itself.

Colts linebacker Erik Walden said on Twitter: "patriots motto 'if u ain't cheating then u ain't tryin'" before following up by saying the Patriots deserved credit for the win.

James shakes off flu to lead Cavs past Jazz



CLEVELAND (AP)—LeBron James scored 26 points, Kevin Love added 19 and the rejuvenated Cavaliers earned their fourth consecutive victory.

Shaking off a flu bug that forced him to miss practice Tuesday and also slowed Kyrie Irving, James added nine assists and seven rebounds. The Cavs are 4-1 since the four-time MVP returned after missing eight games with a strained back and knee.

Irving added 18 points and Timofey Mozgov had 16 for Cleveland, beginning to find its stride following a stretch of injuries and two major trades. J.R. Smith scored 15 as all five Cavs starters scored at least that many for the second straight game.

Enes Kanter had 24 points and 17 rebounds for Utah, which has dropped five of six. Gordon Hayward scored 14 points.

Warriors 126, Rockets 113

In Oakland, Stephen Curry got involved in a rare altercation before finishing with 22 points and 10 assists, and the Golden State Warriors held off the Houston Rockets 126-113 on Wednesday night for their franchise-record 17th straight home win.

The typically mild-mannered Curry ran at Trevor Ariza after the Rockets forward bumped him on

the way down court early in the third quarter. Curry had to be held back by teammates, and officials called a technical foul on Ariza following a video review.

Hawks 110, Paces 91

In Atlanta, DeMarre Carroll and Jeff Teague each scored 17 points, Kyle Korver dunked for the first time in more than two years, and Atlanta tied a franchise record with its 14th straight win.

With the victory, the Hawks improved to a stunning 35-8 and Mike Budenholzer clinched a spot as the Eastern Conference coach in next month's All-Star game in New York City.

Budenholzer could be taking several players with him. The Hawks romped to their 28th victory in the last 30 games, showing the kind of teamwork that has become their trademark in a season that no one saw coming.

Thunder 105, Wizards 103, OT

In Washington, Russell Westbrook drove for the winning layup with 0.8 seconds left in overtime, and Kevin Durant scored 34 points in Oklahoma City's fourth consecutive victory.

Durant and Westbrook scored all 13 of the Thunder's points in the extra period, including Durant's dunk over Marcin Gortat and Westbrook's uncontested

layup off of an inbounds play after Oklahoma City had called timeout with 3.6 seconds remaining.

Westbrook finished with 32 points and led a third-quarter comeback that made up a 12-point halftime deficit.

Pistons 128, Magic 118

In Auburn Hills, Brandon Jennings had 24 points and a career-high 21 assists, and Detroit held on for the victory.

Andre Drummond added 26 points and 16 rebounds for the Pistons, who have won 12 of 15. Detroit nearly blew a 21-point third-quarter lead, but Jennings helped the Pistons close it out in the fourth.

Nikola Vucevic led Orlando with 26 points.

Suns 118, Trail Blazers 113

In Phoenix, Eric Bledsoe had a season-high 33 points, and Phoenix managed to get the win after blowing a big first-half lead.

Isiah Thomas added a season-high 27 points for the Suns, who have won seven consecutive home games.

Portland grabbed a 110-105 lead on Nicolas Batum's 3-pointer with 2:22 to go, but Phoenix closed the game with a 13-3 run.

Grizzlies 92, Raptors 86

In Memphis, Marc Gasol scored 26 points for Memphis, and Zach Randolph had 19 points and 13 rebounds.

The Grizzlies broke open a close game with a 13-3 run midway through the fourth quarter. There were 14 ties and six lead changes for the night.

Gasol was 9 for 16 from the field, and also had seven rebounds and five assists. Randolph was 8 of 14.

Toronto had five players score in double figures, but dropped to 3-8 in its last 11 games.

Pelicans 96, Lakers 80

In New Orleans, Anthony Davis scored 29 points and blocked four shots in his return from a sprained toe, leading the Pelicans to the win.

Eric Gordon had 17 points and a season-high 10 assists for New Orleans. Tyreke Evans added 19 points and Quincy Pondexter finished with 12.

Los Angeles shot 37 percent from the field in its season-long sixth consecutive loss.

Nets 103, Kings 100

In Sacramento, Brook Lopez scored 22 points and blocked

six shots, leading Brooklyn to its second win in the last 10 games.

The Nets had a 23-point lead in the opening half, but the Kings eventually cut it to two late in the fourth quarter. Some clutch shooting by Joe Johnson helped preserve the victory for Brooklyn.

Johnson finished with 16 points. Jarrett Jack added 16 points and eight assists.

Sacramento lost its fifth straight game. DeMarcus Cousins had 28 points and 14 rebounds, and Rudy Gay scored 25 points.

Scherzer's \$210M deal done, Nationals think about 'winning'



WASHINGTON (AP)—Forgive Washington Nationals owner Mark Lerner if he got swept up in the scene.

Speaking after a news conference Wednesday to announce the addition - via a \$210 million, seven-year contract - of 2013 AL Cy Young Award winner Max Scherzer, Lerner was thinking big thoughts. After all, the club's starting rotation, at least for the moment, also includes Stephen Strasburg, Jordan Zimmermann, Doug Fister and Gio Gonzalez.

"If they all stay healthy," began Lerner, whose father, Ted, is the team's principal owner,

"I guess it's a possibility we may give up the fewest runs in National League history during a 162-game schedule, which is amazing."

Let the speculation begin, then.

Who will start on opening day, an honor that's gone to Strasburg the past three years? How good could this staff be?

As it is, in 2014, Washington's starters led the majors with a 3.04 ERA.

How far can those pitchers take the Nationals, who won the NL East in 2012 and again last season before bowing out in Washington's opening playoff series each time?

And, perhaps most intriguingly, will general manager Mike Rizzo keep that group intact? Or will he wind up trading someone, perhaps Zimmermann or Fister, who can both become free agents after next season?

Until those last two questions are answered, Rizzo certainly shares Lerner's enthusiasm for the current collection of arms.

"We'll stack our rotation up with anybody's in our division, our league and maybe in baseball," Rizzo said, "and compete against them."

Of course, things don't always shape up on the field the way they do during the offseason.

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Dream Team seals semis berth

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Dream Team clinched the second semis berth in the boys U19 division of the 2014 Tan Holdings Basketball Classic, following a 70-47 trouncing of the Ol'Aces last night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Dream Team now has a 4-2 record for second place, while the Ol'Aces fell to a 3-3 slate and fifth place in the team standings, half a game behind Kagman Risers (3-2).

Only the Top 4 teams will advance to the semis and with the unbeaten Rollers 1 (6-0) and

Dream Team assured of slots two the next round, the Ol'Aces must pray that Kagman and Sonics (4-2) drop their remaining games to stay in playoff contention.

Kagman was scheduled to meet Rollers 2 (2-3) last night, while the Sonics will play their last match on Tuesday against the latter.

Dream Team gave the Ol'Aces no chance to pull off an upset, as the James Benavente-coached team started strong, taking a 47-22 halftime advantage.

Shane Deleon Guerrero an-

chored Dream Team's offense in the first half, scoring 17 points, while Dixon Kwon provided enough support, chipping in 10. Four other Dream Team players lit up the board for Dream

Team in the first half to double up the struggling Ol'Aces.

Only Tristan Montes hit more than two field goals for the Ol'Aces in the first 20 minutes of play, forcing the Preston Basa-mentored squad to play catch up in the entire second half.

Montes kept leading the Ol'Aces in the second half,

but failed still failed to draw help from his teammates, as his squad only managed to cut the deficit to 18, 42-60, with around six minutes left on the match.

A second straight triple from Sam Darag brought Dream Team's lead back to 20-plus and sealed the Ol'Aces' fate. Darag scored 8 straight points to widen the gap further, while Deleon Guerrero put the finishing touches in the lopsided victory, nailing 4 of Dream Team's last 6 markers.

Deleon Guerrero finished with a game-high 21 points, while Darag and Kwon contributed 16 and 13, respectively.

Montes was the only double-figure scorer for the Ol'Aces with his 13.

Dream Team 70-S. Deleon Guerrero 21, Darag 16, Kwon 13, Francisco 5, F.Deleon Guerrero 5, Castro 5, I. Borja 3, E.

Borja 3.

Ol'Aces 47—Montes 13, Castillo 5, Nakashima 5, De Luna 5, Ermitanio 4, Leonardo Cristobal 4, Miller 2, Bucayo 2, Moses 2.

Scoring by halves: 47-22, 70-47.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Dream Team's Dixon Kwon drives to the baseline against two Ol'Aces defenders during their boys U19 game in the 2014 Tan Holdings Basketball Classic yesterday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.



JON PEREZ

GOLF FOR CHARITY

Organizers of the Filtaga/Emon Lodge 179 Master Golf tournament and some family members pose for a group photo after the successful staging of the fundraising event last Saturday at the Marianas Country Club in Marpi. Proceeds from the one-day tournament will go to Karidat for its various charity works.

NMITA

From Page 32

able reason for a delay. Players not accepting challenges may be dropped from the ladder.

"To avoid excess challenges against any single player, no player may be challenged more than once a week," Beling said.

Matches will be two sets, regular scoring and in case of a deadlock, a super tiebreaker will be in effect. Games halted

by rain or other acceptable reasons must resume within one week or the win will be awarded to the leading player.

Beling said the Tennis Ladder is introduced to CNMI players after a series of talks with the Commonwealth's coach and NMITA official Jeff Race.

"Jeff and I were speaking a while back and both decided that the ladder system would be a good way to increase match-play amongst juniors. We real-

ized together that the kids just don't play enough competitive matches. Kids in the states are playing around 5-10 competitive matches a month. So we believe that the ladder system will increase matchplay amongst juniors and therefore improve their match 'toughness' or match 'readiness,'" Beling said.

Registration for the first year of the program is free, but a \$10 fee will be charged next

season. After June 30, ladder participants will pay 50% of the annual fee, which will go directly to the ladders activities and prizes.

"The schedule will actually be on the players' terms. They'll set them up, finding a time and place they both find convenient. Then they'll report the scores to me. The ladder will be updated every two weeks on Saipan Tennis Academy and Saipan Tennis pages," Beling ended.

MHS

From Page 32

an all- varsity match.

The Lady Dolphins had an easy time winning the opening set, but encountered rough waters in the next frame as the Lady Knights seemed poised to extend the match.

Mt. Carmel—led by the combined efforts of Savannah Delos Santos, Karleen Reyes, Janika Taimanao and setter Masami Sato—was in full control of the

second set, as it enjoyed a 16-11 lead midway in the set.

But MHS, with Shanna Flores serving, rallied back and went on a 12-2 exchange to move within two points of wrapping up the contest, 23-18, and force MCS to call a timeout.

The Lady Knights, off a timeout, scored four straight points to move within one, 23-22, and this time it was the Lady Dolphins turn to sue for time to talk things over.

When play resumed, MHS moved to match point after

Reyes' spike attempt went wide.

A Shanna Flores kill sealed MHS' seventh straight win and in the process handed MCS its third loss in seven matches.

Fatigue could be factor in Mt. Carmel's loss, as it played back-to-back games with the Lady Knights scoring a 25-10, 25-22 triumph against Kagman High School in another all-varsity match early in the day.

In other results, Grace Christian Academy improved its record to 4-3 after a 25-9, 25-9

demolition of Saipan Southern High School, which is still winless in seven games

Saipan International School, in the last all-varsity match, notched its fourth win in six games following a quick 25-12, 25-17 win also against SSHS.

Meanwhile, MHS JV came back from an opening-set loss in beating Kagman JV, 17-25, 25-11, 15-7, to bag its fourth victory in as many games, while MCS JV outsmarted SIS JV, 25-23, 25-18.

FIERCE

From Page 32

match against Japan. Iraq, though, still has vivid memories of 2007 when it won the Asian Cup against the odds, with its homeland in the midst of war.

"I see it as a tough game," Iraq midfielder Yaser Kasim said. "They are a good side. We played them in a friendly already, so we got a test how to play against them, and how they play. It's going to be a massive, massive game and a great rivalry, so hopefully we can put on a show for the people."

Meanwhile, four-time champion Japan starts as a favorite against the UAE, and the Blue Samurai are living up to their billing as the team to beat for the title.

Coach Javier Aguirre, who is working under the cloud of an ongoing match-fixing investigation relating to his time in Spanish club football, was not letting his players get ahead of themselves going into the Melbourne match.

"From my experience in the Copa America, World Cup and the Gold Cup, I can say that our chances are the same as the other seven teams remaining," Aguirre said. "From now we start from zero."

Japan will have had only two days' rest since its last group game—one day less than the UAE—and star attacker Keisuke Honda was not impressed with the timing.

"Two days is too short for recovery," Honda said. "We have to deal with it but I don't agree with this schedule. It is very difficult, a tough schedule."

"We shouldn't think we will create many chances against them. They are strong physically, have speed and many talented players."

The Emirates' chances of pulling off a surprise win will rest largely on the shoulders of young playmaker Omar Abdulrahman, whose performances in this tournament have demonstrated why some of Europe's big clubs are tracking his progress.

The UAE's strength is a coherence born of having the same group of players coming up through the ranks from under-17s, but Abdulrahman is the standout.

Japan captain Makoto Hasebe, as the ball-winning midfielder, will have the chief responsibility of negating the Emirati star.

"He gets a lot of the ball from his teammates and we know he is the key player," Hasebe said. "He is a playmaker more than a finisher and we have to take care of the way he distributes the ball."

"I have seen some of their games and they are dangerous going forward. They have a lot of players that have come through younger age groups together and are a complete team. But, that said, on our day I think we are a better team."

Tomokane, Lieto early leaders in SBL

By JON PEREZ

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REPORTER

Northern Yankees slugger Peter Tomokane and Falcons hurler Peter Lieto posted decent numbers to become the early statistical leaders in their respective fields in the 2015 Saipan Baseball League.

Tomokane had four hits in his four times at bat for a perfect 1.000 percentage to take the batting leader lead in the new season entering its second week. He had three singles and a double.

The veteran batter achieved the feat in the Yankees' 17-5 demolition of the North Starz last Jan. 14. He also scored a run on a Brian Camacho RBI double.

The Brewers' Jun Rabauliman (3-for-4) came in second with a .750 average while, Yan-

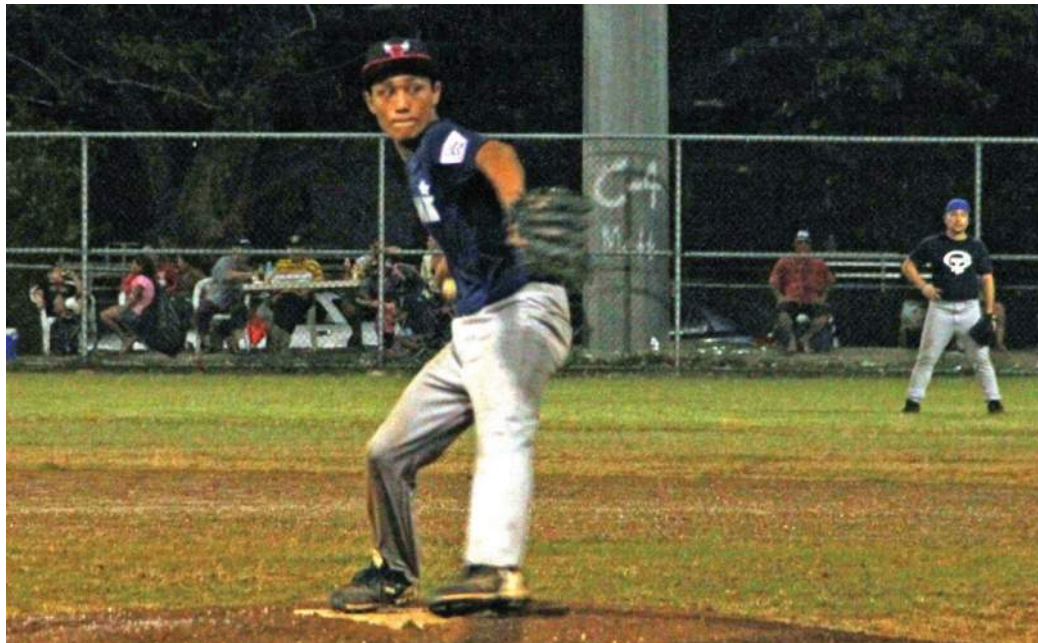
kees teammates Jerome Delos Santos and Gary Cruz are tied from third to fourth (4-for-6) with .667, respectively.

Roy Celis, also of the Brewers, is currently in fifth spot (3-for-5), batting .600 while the Fielders pair of Anthony Tenorio and Cedric Ada (4-for-8) joined five other batters from sixth to 12th places with .500 average.

The Brewers' Marvin Kaipat, the Yankees' Robert Bansil, the Falcons' Jeremy Atalig, and Jets batters Dave Matagolai and Frankie Norita all went 2-for-4.

Jesse Sablan of the North Starz and the Yankess' Ben Jones Jr. batted 2-for-6 (.333) and the North Starz' Ricardo Dela Cruz (2-for-7, .286) round up the Top 15 batters.

Jones Jr. also hit an inside-the-park home run and added three RBIs under his name to join Cruz, Dela Cruz, and Kaipat.



Jets pitcher Mike Muna is currently fourth in the ERA rankings with 2.57 in seven innings pitched, while striking out 11, which is the same tally recorded by the Brewers' Vince Cepeda in the ongoing Saipan Baseball League.

Jose Lizama of the Fielders is the current runs leader with four, while teammate Tom Agulto already had two doubles. The Yankees' Peter Tenorio and the Falcons' Hen-

ry Iguel have a triple each.

The Falcons ace hurler Lieto, meanwhile, had already pitched seven complete innings, while the Brewers' Vince Cepeda was on the mound for six to end up tied with a clean slate in ERA.

Manny Cabrera (Yankees, 2.25); Mike Muna (Jets, 2.57); Jimmy Brel (Fielders, 3.00); and the North Starz pair of Jonahan Tenorio (3.38) and Richard Dela Cruz (7.50) complete the list.

Lieto is also the current strikeouts leader with 18, while Cepeda and Muna are tied with 11 apiece.

The two-time defending champion Brewers, Fielders, and Yankees currently have 1-0 slates to end up tied on top of the standings, while the Falcons are in the middle with an even 1-1 card. The Jets lost their first game against the Falcons (10-4), while the North Starz has yet to win after two matches.

Shirley's back on track, downs Sun Palace



Shirley's Coffee Shop's Jeraldine Castillo dribbles in front of two Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan defenders during their game in the 2014 Tan Holdings Basketball Classic last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Shirley's Coffee Shop snapped its two-game losing skid after defeating Sun Palace Hotel, 38-27, in the lone women's division match in the 2014 Tan Holdings Basketball Classic last Tuesday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

With the victory, Shirley's improved to 5-4 for a share of third place with idle Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. Sun Palace is still winless in nine games.

Jeraldine Castillo, who fell short in leading Shirley's to a come-from-behind victory against Fiesta last weekend, 43-

45, this time made sure her team had the game in control early to bag the easy win. She scored a game-high 20 points, knocking in 8 of Shirley's last 10 points in the first half to give her team a 24-12 advantage.

Castillo slowed down a bit in the second half, adding only 6 points, but the cushion Shirley's

gained in the first 20 minutes of play was enough to preserve the team's double-digit winning margin.

Diane Pablo backed up Castillo, chipping in 10 points, while Mae Ito, Havika Farro, Patrisha Echavez, and Jasmine Phan also made it to the board for Shirley's.

No Sun Palace player broke into double figures with Shaina Abadilla tallying only 8 markers. Marlene Lumabi contributed 7, while Candice Avelino, Ljay Francisco, and Shelo Olivios combined for 12 markers.

Sun Palace is out of the play-off race along with Kanoa Resort (2-6), while Armatech (9-0), IT&E (5-3), Fiesta (5-4), and Shirley's are in the semifinals with two three games left in the elimination.

The remaining matches this week will determine the semis pairing, Armatech is already assured of the No. 1 spot and will be pitted against the No. 4 finisher. The No. 2 and 3 placers will duel in the other semis tiff.

IT&E and Kanoa were scheduled to play in one of the three remaining matches last night at 7pm and results of the game were unavailable at press time. IT&E will then conclude its elimination round assignment this Saturday when it takes on Shirley's Coffee Shop at 5:30pm, while Sun Pal-

ace will challenge Armatech in the final match at 7pm.

The first semis match between the No. 1 and 4 squads will be played on Thursday at 6pm, while the other Final Four pairing No. 2 and 3) is slated next Friday also at 6pm. Win-

ners of the semis matches will go for the marbles next Saturday at 7pm.

Shirley's 38—Castillo 20, Pablo 10, Ito 2, Farro 2, Echavez 2, Phan 2.

Sun Palace 27—Abadilla 8, Lumabi 7, Avelino 5, Francisco 4, Olivios 2.

Scoring by halves: 24-12, 38-27.

Bank of Guam 5K Run opens online registration



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, William D. Leon Guerrero, BoG vice chair, executive vice president and chief operating officer, Lou A. Leon Guerrero, BoG chair, president, and chief Executive officer, Mike Naholowaa, BoG vice president and IFIT 5K chair, and Joaquin P.L.G. Cook, BoG executive vice president and chief sales officer are photographed with the first 2015 race bibs.



Bank of Guam is pleased to announce that online registration is now available for the Bank of Guam 10th Annual IFIT 5K Run with the first 200 online registrants receiving a t-shirt.

Eligible registrants can pick up their incentives and race numbers at Guam Cancer Care offices located at 341 So. Marine Corps Drive, RK Plaza, Suite 102, Tamuning. Contact number is (671) 969-2223.

The pre-race fee is \$10 per person and \$35 per family of four. Race day registration is \$20 per person. Quick dry athletic shirts will be given to

the first 1,500 finishers. Registration forms are available at Bank of Guam branches, Hornet Sporting Goods, and Guam Cancer Care.

The Bank of Guam IFIT 5K Run is scheduled for Saturday, March 7, with a 5am show time and 6am start. The race is a flat course, with the starting point at the bank's parking lot facing Route 4 Hagatna.

The first male and female finishers will win \$1,000 each, and top raffle prizes are two Delta Air Lines roundtrip tickets to the United States.

For race information, please contact Mike Naholowaa at (671) 472-5223 or Charly Lauron at (671) 969-2223.

One team confirmed in business caging

Docomo Pacific became the first team to confirm its participation in the 2015 Inter-Commercial Business Basketball League, while the other eight squads invited have yet to inform the organizers of their respective status.

Marpac-Budweiser, Pacific Islands Club-Saipan, Saipan Stevedore, Joeten Enterprises, Saipan Ice & Water Company, IT&E, Pacific Trading Co., and Mobil are the other squads in-

vited to join the league.

A meeting will be held today at 6pm at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium with the final opening date one of the topics to be discussed. The league is tentatively set to open on Tuesday, Jan. 27, also at the Ada gym.

Teams that will join the league are advised to bring a copy of their respective 15-player ros-

ters and the \$530 entrance fee, which is payable to the Basketball Association of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Only employees of the said businesses are allowed to participate and 12 players can suit up for each team every game.

The Human Resource managers of each business establishment need to certify that players





**Solo suspended
for 30 days
from US
national team**

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**Tomokane,
Lieto early
leaders in
SBL**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

NMITA launches Tennis Ladder

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association launches a new program at the start of the year to provide more matches for both junior and adult players.



Tennis Ladder, which has been implemented by various tennis clubs and schools around the world, will be played early next month, while registration for interested players has started this week and will run until next.

Under this program, according to ladder director Luke Beling, NMIFA will have six ladders: boys, girls, women's, men's 40+, women's 40+. He added that after the two-week signup, ladder positions will be randomly selected (raffle drawing). A player joining an existing ladder has one initial chance to challenge anyone in any position on the ladder. If the player loses that challenge match, he/



she will then be placed on the bottom of the ladder and has to challenge to move up. The new ladder participant who wins that initial match moves into the position of the player he/she just defeated.

In the challenge, based on the guidelines Beling formulated, players may challenge upwards a maximum of three positions. Challengers must issue the challenge to higher players and matches must be accepted and

scheduled within two weeks of the challenge, unless both players agree to an extension or the ladder director accepts a reason-

**See NMITA on
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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
CNMI junior player Vincent Tudela serves to Clayton Izuka during a local tournament last month at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis courts. The Commonwealth's junior and adults players will have a chance to play more matches, starting this year with the launching of Tennis Ladder.

Fierce rivals, title favorite compete in quarterfinals

AUSTRALIA (AP)—Neighbors and fierce rivals Iran and Iraq will meet in the Asian Cup quarterfinals on Friday, while defending champion and title favorite Japan will face the United Arab Emirates.

The winner-takes-all match in the Australian capital Canberra will be fiercely contested between Iraq and Iran that both believe they have the edge on their opponent.

Iran's form has been faultless, with three wins from three in the group stage, keeping clean sheets in every game. With experienced and highly regarded coach Carlos Queiroz in charge, the

Iranian's belief in their title chances is growing.

Iran, which beat Iraq in a pre-tournament friendly, clinched top spot in its group with a stoppage-time winner by Reza Ghoochannejhad which delivered a 1-0 win against the UAE.

"The spirit is great in our team," Ghoochannejhad. "The chemistry and spirit in this team is amazing and we hope to continue and get good results in the future."

Iraq's form has not been quite as convincing, beating Jordan and Palestine while losing a tightly-fought

**See FIERCE on
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MHS survives MCS' gallant stand



By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER



Defending champion Marianas High School rallied in the second set to survive Mt. Carmel School's gallant effort in yesterday's final match in the 2014-2015 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Girls Volleyball League at the MHS Gymnasium.

The MHS Lady Dolphins came back from a five-point deficit in the second set in completing a 25-13, 25-22 decision over Mt. Carmel to foil the Lady Knights' bid of pushing the game to a deciding third in

See MHS on Page 30

JON PEREZ
Marianas High School's Negahr Rastguiy keeps the ball in play, while two of her teammates and Mt. Carmel School's Janika Taimanao look on during their game in the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Girls Volleyball League yesterday at the MHS Gymnasium.



AP
Qatar's Mohammed Muntari right, and Iran's Vouria Ghafouri battle for the ball during the AFC Asia Cup soccer match between Qatar and Iran in Sydney, Australia, Thursday, Jan. 15, 2015. Iran plays Iraq in the quarterfinals on Friday.